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Ann Arbor Observer

May 2014

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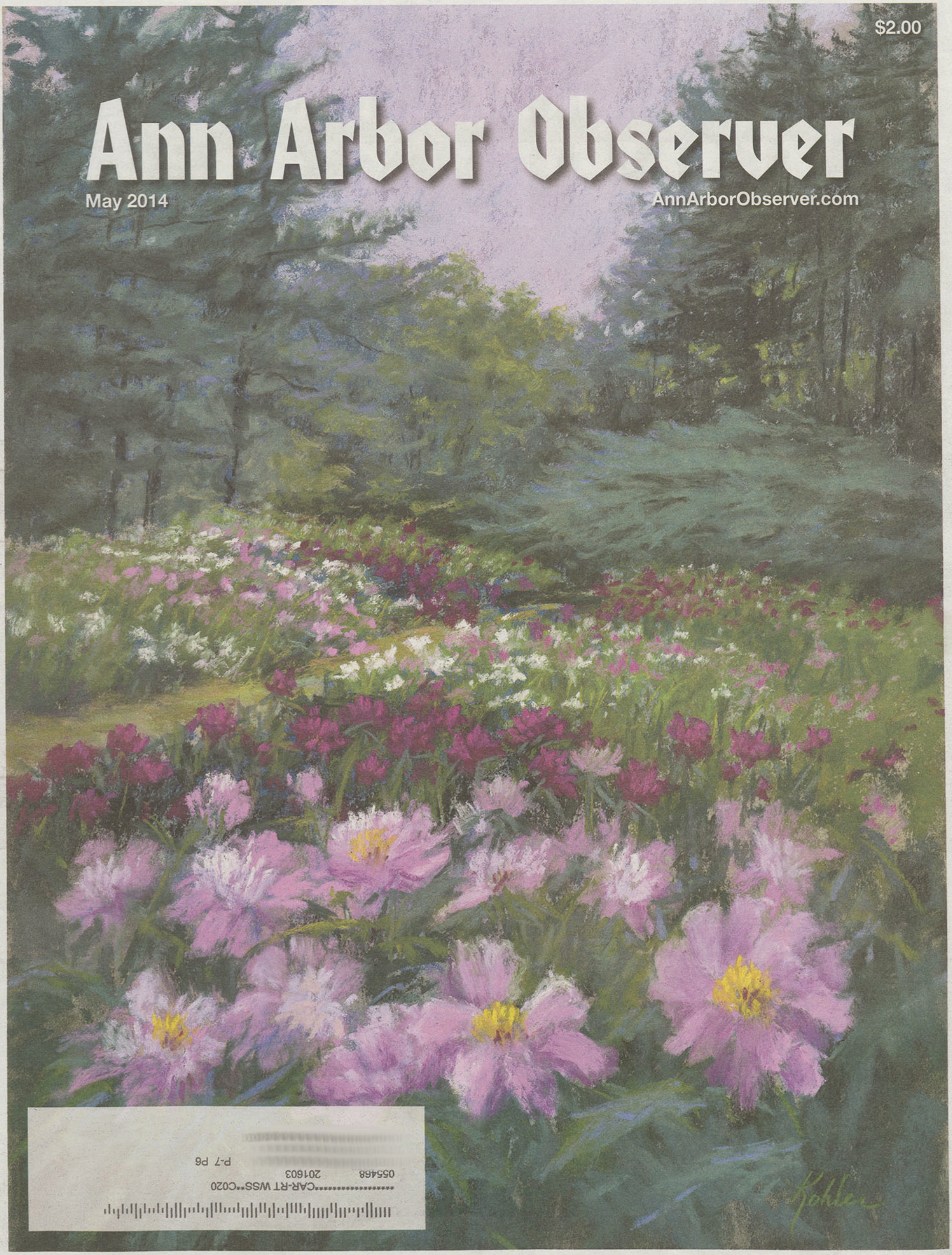

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P-7 P6

DON'T LET AAATA TAKE US FOR A RIDE

VOTE NO

Tuesday, May 6th

TOP REASONS TO VOTE AGAINST A 34% TRANSIT TAX INCREASE

TOP-HEAVY MANAGEMENT AAATA does not need a 52 person management staff for 133 bus drivers. Former AAATA Treasurer and Board member Ted Annis estimates that 50% of the management staff is redundant and non-essential. $5.7 million a year is paid in management salaries and benefits. Ten managers' base salaries average $113,000 a year.

WASTEFUL SPENDING AAATA is spending $1.1 million on lavish public relations campaigns. AAATA regularly spends $400,000 or more on overtime per year.

34% INCREASE IN TRANSIT TAXES This millage would result in a second transit tax, costing a homeowner with a home valued at $250,000, a total of almost $350 per year – a 34% increase.

INEFFICIENCIES AAATA could save more than $6 million annually if it operated as efficiently as Grand Rapids. That's nearly two million dollars more than the millage would bring in!

MILLAGE NOT NEEDED "With better use of current funds, additional bus service hours and expanded routes can be provided by AAATA without an additional 34% tax increase," says former AAATA Treasurer and Board of Directors member Ted Annis.

HERE'S WHAT YOUR NEIGHBORS ARE SAYING

- *"AAATA wants a new millage to accomplish what they could have had if they had not raided the cookie jar and wasted previous tax dollars. I vote NO."*
- *"AAATA has a budget of $18.7 million in personnel costs, including $5.6 million in fringe benefits."*
- *"If they were any other business in Ann Arbor, AAATA would have long ago gone bankrupt and been forced to end operations, but the AAATA can count on an endless supply of public money from tax millages to save them."*
- *"This isn't fair. Ann Arbor residents will pay the lion's share of this millage, with Ypsilanti residents receiving more of the benefits."*

VOTE NO ON THE 34% TRANSIT TAX INCREASE

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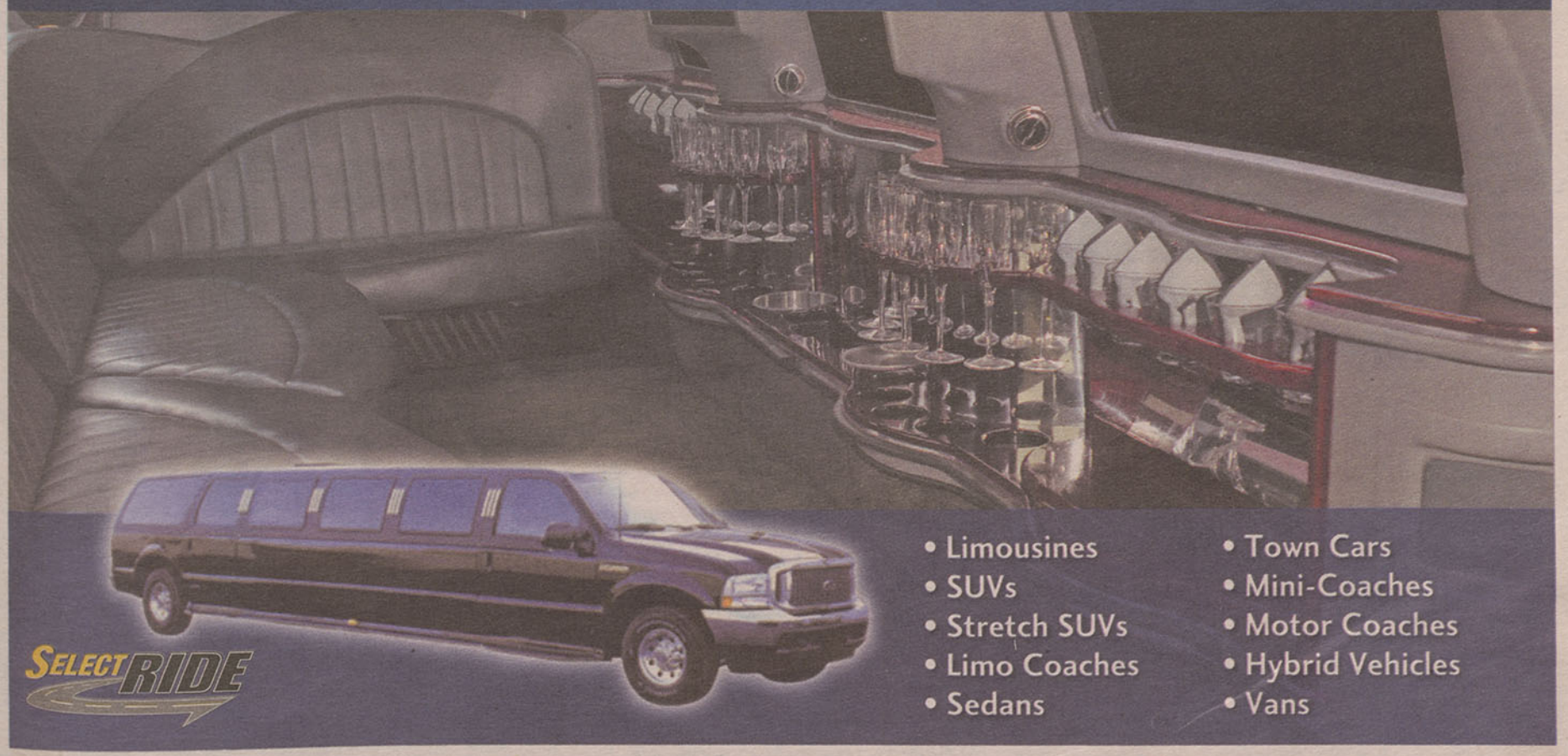

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VOTE YES FOR TRANSIT MAY 6

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FOR COMMUNITY

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The millage is supported by a broad coalition of social service, business, labor, civil rights, religious and environmental organizations, as well as by elected officials and community leaders throughout Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township.

REASONS TO VOTE YES ON MAY 6

1. **Public transportation enables senior citizens and people with disabilities to obtain the vital goods and services they need, allowing them to maintain their independence.**
2. **Public transit enables people to get to jobs or school, including those who cannot drive or who do not own a car.**
3. **Improving and expanding TheRide will reduce the number of cars on heavily congested local roads, resulting in less gridlock and fewer auto accidents, and will free up 1,000 parking spaces in downtown Ann Arbor each day.**
4. **The millage will provide seniors and those with a disability expanded service hours, more door-to-door service and more destinations.**
5. **With the new transit improvements, seniors and people with disabilities will save $4 million annually on transportation costs .**
6. **Jobs are created locally by reliable public transit: according to projections, the improved transit system would create an additional 250-plus jobs.**
7. **Transit spurs economic activity: the economic impact of improved public transit in our region would increase from $62.5 million today to at least $96 million annually.**
8. **Local businesses and workers benefit: Residents of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township would save $28 million annually over traditional transportation.**
9. **Public transportation is good for the environment: expanding AAATA services would prevent 3,594 metric tons of carbon dioxide from being released into the local environment each year.**
10. **USA Today, CNN, and independent national transportation associations include TheRide in Best-of-Class rankings based on ridership, operational efficiency, financial stability and technological innovation. The millage will enable TheRide to provide even better service to our communities.**

Organizations and Businesses

ADAPT • American Federation of Government Employees Local 3907 • Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living • Ann Arbor Community Center • Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Regional Chamber • Area Agency on Aging 1-B • Aut Bar • Bethlehem United Church of Christ – Church Board • Bike Ypsi • DuoSecurity • Ecology Center • Eisenhower Center • Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice • First Congregational UCC Ypsilanti – Church Council • Huron Valley Central Labor Council • IHN at Alpha House • Menlo Innovations • Michigan Suburbs Alliance • Michigan League of Conservation Voters • MOSES • NAACP – Ypsilanti-Willow Run Branch • PEAC – Programs to Educate All Cyclists • Sierra Club Huron Valley Group • SOS Community Services • Think Local First • Transport Workers Union • United Auto Workers - Region 1A • University of Michigan College Democrats • Washtenaw County Democratic Party Black Caucus • Washtenaw County Democratic Party Board • The Washtenaw Eviction and Defense Group • Washtenaw Housing Alliance • WeROC – Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition • Ypsilanti District Library Board • Ypsilanti Senior/Community Center • Ypsilanti Towne Center • Zingerman's Community of Businesses

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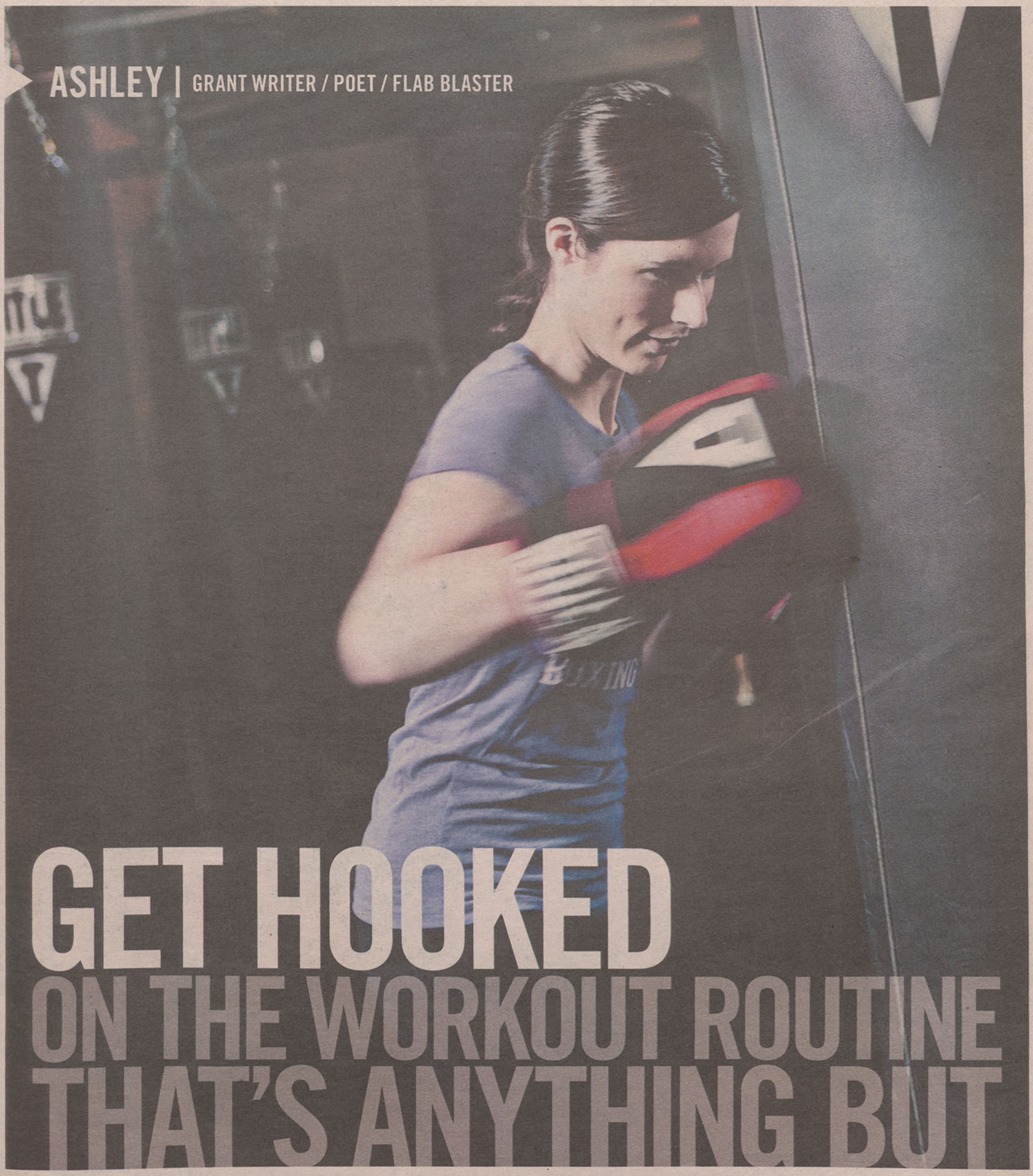

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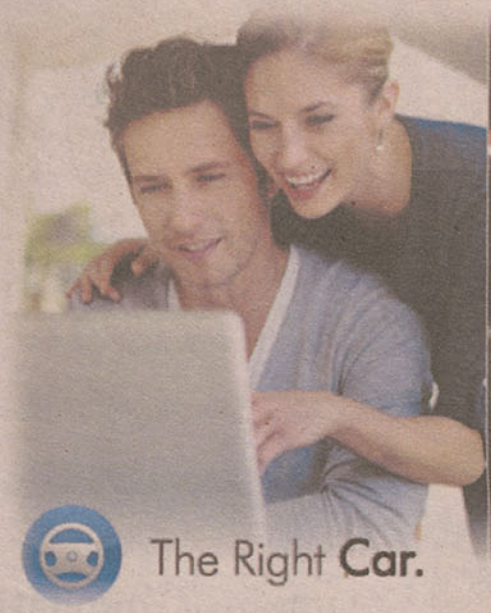

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50 years, 50 stories

Story #51

A One Million Dollar Day

The Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation's gift to our local community.

We have one more story to share, and we hope our community will help us write it.

To close out a year-long celebration of the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation's 50th Anniversary, and with the help of generous sponsors, AAACF is providing $500,000 in matching funds to inspire our community to give generously to support the work of 50 local nonprofits.

We're hoping to generate ....

$1 million for 50 local nonprofits in 24 hours on Tuesday, May 6, 2014.

For each of the 50 participating nonprofits, AAACF will match 1:1 every dollar raised online on Tuesday, May 6th up to $10,000 for each nonprofit, making it possible for a nonprofit to raise $20,000 or more in one day.

The online giving event is being hosted at www.givelocalannarborarea.org – a secure website powered by Kimbia, Inc. During 24 hours on May 6, 2014, anyone can make an online donation to one or more of the 50 participating local nonprofits at www.givelocalannarborarea.org - and double their gift. The minimum donation is $10.

The 50 local nonprofits selected to participate serve Washtenaw County and the Plymouth area, and include health & human service agencies and arts & culture organizations whose missions align with AAACF's two strategic priorities.

How will $ 1 million raised in one day for 50 local nonprofits enrich our community?

The list is long - from benefiting Hope Clinic's food pantry and its medical and dental clinics to helping 826 Michigan write the next chapter in supporting young students' writing skills. For a complete list of the 50 participating nonprofits, please visit **www.aaacf.org** or **www.givelocalannarborarea.org.**

Please join us on Tuesday, May 6, 2014. It's going to be a rewarding day.

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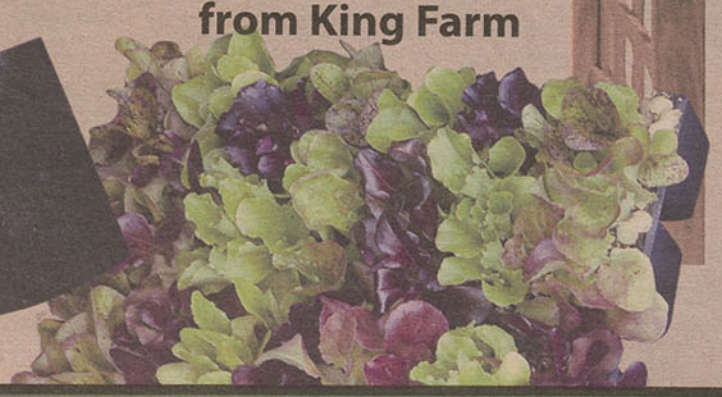

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May 2014 vol. 38 • no. 9

Cover: The peony garden at the Arboretum. Pastel painting by Janet Kohler.

features

31 What Price Transit?
The AATA seeks a millage.
James Leonard

37 The Faculty Strikes Back
Are U-M administrators overpaid?
Eve Silberman & John Hilton

41 Sue Thy Neighbor
How a shortcut to the Arb triggered a costly legal battle *Julie Halpert*

45 The Honesty Policy
Admitting medical mistakes pays off at the U-M Health System.
David Alexander

departments

11 Up Front
Tim Athan, Michael Betzold, Shelley Daily, Patrick Dunn, Dale Leslie

13 Inside Ann Arbor
Tim Athan, James Leonard, Jan Schlain

21 Outside
Bob & Jorja Feldman

23 My Town
Matt Phillips, Mary Rexer-Bluhm, Julie Stotlar

27 Crime Map

29 Ann Arborites
Shelley Daily

51 Restaurant Reviews
Lee Lawrence, M.B. Lewis

57 Marketplace Changes
Sally Mitani

107 Back Page
Sally Bjork, Jay Forstner

what's happening

64 Music at Nightspots
John Hinchey
Shows at the Ark, the Blind Pig, and more, plus a 100th-birthday look at the state of the blues at Mash.

67 Events
Katie Whitney, John Hinchey, & Stephanie Douglass
Daily events in Ann Arbor during May, plus listings of **Films**, p. 73; new exhibits at local **Galleries**, p. 79 (including a review of Brenda Miller Slomovits' collages at the JCC Amster Gallery); and reviews of the jazz duo of drummer Tom Rainey and saxophonist Ingrid Laubrock, TechTwilight at the Hands-On Museum, memoirist Bruce Mills, the Howlin' Brothers, and Jesse Blumberg and Martin Katz's performance of Schubert's *Winterreise*.

108 Events at a Glance

advertising sections

102 Real Estate Section / Home Sales Map *Kevin Duke*

105 Classfieds **106 Services & Advertiser Index**

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UpFront

Obama care: With a few days' notice about President Obama's April visit, the U-M spread more than a red carpet. Apparently, when the White House decided the eighty-plus-year-old Intramural Building was a choice spot for a presidential speech on the minimum wage, the chief executive's favorite sport, basketball, got benched. As one U-M worker involved in stage preparations noted, "The eight basketball backboards and nets above the courts had to be removed for fear light might reflect in the president's face while speaking." No one could remember the heavy, bulky fixtures having been disturbed since the IM Building's construction in 1927. Also dropped from their hinges were the doors leading from the IM to the adjacent Canham Natatorium, to provide an unencumbered path for Obama to enter backstage.

Canham's locker room hosted a mass gathering of security personnel and medical workers intertwined in wires. "It seemed odd," the U-M employee mused. "Hundreds of communication wires and cables were strung through the old building's large open windows. How secure was that?"

Never a Bystander: Four years in the making, the documentary *Never a Bystander* premieres this month at the Michigan Theater as part of the Jewish Film Festival (see Films, p. 73). First-time filmmaker Evelyn Neuhaus (Ann Arborites, January 2012) raised $30,000, mostly from individual donors, to complete the thirty-minute film that celebrates the life and work of retired U-M professor Irene Butter—Holocaust survivor, human rights activist, and co-creator of U-M's Wallenberg Medal and Lecture.

The film traces Butter's German Jewish family through exile in the Netherlands to their imprisonment in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp, Butter's survival, and her subsequent activism.

Neuhaus, whose own parents fled Nazi Germany, met Butter as her student at the U-M in the 1970s. She lost her mother to the debilitating genetic disorder Gaucher's disease when she was seven. Neuhaus also has the disease and uses a wheelchair, so she had to hire people to assist her with camera work; she also got help with editing. Between the logistical and financial challenges, she admits, at times she "wasn't all that certain" the project would come to fruition. Now, she hopes audiences will be inspired by Butter's example of how "a person can suffer as a child and still build a life of love and social activism."

For her part, Butter hopes the film will encourage people "not to be passive and silent when they face wrongdoing. I want students to realize there are problems in the present-day world. Genocide, prejudice, discrimination, and hatred have continued … It's a wake-up call."

N. Main Catch-22: City street sweeping vehicles cleaned the beautiful riverside pathway through Bandemer and Argo parks at the end of March soon after the snow finally melted. But they didn't touch the nearby sidewalk on N. Main, which was blanketed with dirt, gravel, glass, and other detritus unfriendly to bike tires and running shoes—all unearthed after the melting of snow piles left by a long winter's worth of street plowing.

Cyclists and joggers take the sidewalk to Lake Shore Dr., one of only two legal ways to cross the train tracks that separate Main St. from the Argo trail. (The other is the steep Broadway Bridges.) So why couldn't the city take a couple hours to sweep up the mess its plows left behind?

Because, says project management engineer Mike Nearing, it can't afford to—that's the job of property owners, and if the city did it for some, it'd be obligated to do it for any and all who requested it. Jessie Rogers of the police department's community standards division says officers could ask the property owners on N. Main to clean up any trash on their stretch of sidewalk—but under city ordinances, gravel and dirt aren't the property owner's responsibility. Some, however, eventually did sweep part of the sidewalk.

Better connections from Main to the river remain in limbo. Last year, a task force studying the crucial corridor looked at an expensive pedestrian bridge over Main and an under-railroad tunnel to the river along Depot St. Both remain at the pipe dream stage—so pathfinders will have to make their own way to the Argo Pond portion of the Border-to-Border Trail again this summer, over whatever obstacles they may find in their way.

Guest of honor: The Heather Black Project's weekly jazz show at the Ravens Club regularly attracts top-notch local guest musicians, but an international celebrity who recently joined the group may prove hard to top: legendary trumpeter Wynton Marsalis and members of his Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra sat in for an impromptu set following their appearance at Hill Auditorium on March 30.

Invited by Detroit trumpeter and Ravens Club regular Marcus Belgrave, Marsalis arrived with Lincoln Center drummer Ali Jackson and pianist Dan Nimmer just before the Heather Black Project began its second set. Vocalist Heather Schwartz says she didn't want to blow their cover, so she just "mentioned a couple of times, 'If anyone happens to have their horn, we'd be happy to have any of these fine players come play with us.' " Marsalis, Nimmer, and Jackson took her up on the invitation halfway through the set, playing with HBP's bassist Josef Deas and trumpeter Ingrid Racine. Though Schwartz sat out the jam session, Marsalis praised her performance warmly. "He walked up to me, and the first thing he said was, 'You got this, girl. You got this,' " she recalls.

Schwartz says that Marsalis and company played about a half hour to a growing crowd drawn in by social media posts, then dashed out. It was, she says, both an "amazing" performance and perfectly natural in the jazz world. "Everyone wants to hear some grand story, but it's really just jazz cats playing," she says. "It was just another Sunday night, you know?"

Grace in Ann Arbor: Sixty-three years ago this month, Grace Kelly appeared on stage at the U-M's Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre. Kelly was twenty-one, and her first movie, *Fourteen Hours,* had come out just two months earlier; she was more than a year away from her breakthrough role opposite Gary Cooper in *High Noon.*

In the meantime, she took on a role in the Ann Arbor Drama Season's production of *Ring Round the Moon.* The *Ann Arbor News* gave the opening night a glowing review, but, after accounting for nearly everyone else in the show, included only a single comment about the future star's performance: "Grace Kelly playing Isabelle, a beautiful ballet dancer, and Boris Marshalov, a melancholy millionaire … teamed for one of the play's many comic highlights."

A 1999 Observer article by Grace Shackman told the history of the Drama Series, which ran from 1929 to the late 1950s. The late Ted Heusel directed its later years. Along with Kelly's appearance, he recalled productions that included Charlton Heston in *Macbeth* and E.G. Marshall in *The Crucible.* ■

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Miller's New Look

"What makes me mad as hell is the ugly sight out my window," says Mary Ann (Corky) Wattles.

Wattles, who lives in the 2300 block of Miller, is speaking of the reconstruction that transformed her street last year. From her home opposite Fulmer, she looks out on a small rain garden that she's expected to care for, a crosswalk marked by bright yellow signs, a pedestrian island in the middle of the street, and a new bus stop where cars back up as buses drop off and pick up passengers.

Wattles' biggest complaint is that the city didn't do enough to get input from people who live on Miller before making all these changes. Though officials held public forums, she says, "some of us work fifty-plus hours" a week and couldn't attend. "They should have gone door to door, canvassing [from] Newport to Maple, asking [residents] what they observed, what they know," she says.

Kevin Clark, who lives in the 1600 block of Miller, points out that "people had a chance to come to the forums," but "a lot of people didn't." He attended the meetings, served on the project's design advisory committee, and is happy with the results. "The islands are nice," he says, and "I really like the rain gardens."

MARK BIALEK

Two views: Corky Wattles wasn't able to make the community forums about the Miller project and hates the changes in front of her house. Kevin Clark attended the forums, joined the design advisory committee, and likes the new pedestrian refuge islands and rain gardens.

A lot of the $6.5 million project is underground, including a new water main along the entire 0.9-mile stretch, bigger storm sewers, and 1,000 feet of new sanitary sewer. Responding to a heads-up from the city, Clark and other residents took advantage of the work to replace deteriorating Orangeburg sewer lines. Made of wood pulp and pitch, Orangeburg pipes were installed in many postwar subdivisions, but haven't held up well and are no longer used.

During a one-inch rainfall, only one-third as much water now reaches the street's storm sewers, thanks to twenty-two curbside rain gardens and two larger "bio-retention areas" in Garden Homes Park and the Miller Nature Area.

Replacing his Orangeburg when the sewer was already torn up, Clark says, saved him "a thousand or two."

The visible changes include four new crosswalks with refuge islands, two new bus stops, and wider bicycle lanes. There are also twenty-two small rain gardens in the easement between the sidewalk and street, and two larger "bio-retention areas," one in the Miller Nature Area west of Newport and the other in Garden Homes Park at the corner of Miller and Franklin.

Wattles has a rain garden in front of her house, but says the contractors "left the potted plants in the [rain garden] space, unplanted, for days … until they died. I doubt they'll come up [in the spring]."

City project engineer David Dykman says she won't need to worry about that. The contractors—Hoffman Brothers—are responsible for making sure the rain gardens are planted properly and maintained for two growing cycles. In future years, though, residents will be responsible for maintaining them. Susan Bryan, Rain Gardens Coordinator for the county Water Resources Office, says having a rain garden "is more like buying a new puppy, and less like buying a new chair." The maintenance will be "more than just gardening."

The payoff is less water in the storm sewers. "The amount of storm water runoff generated from a one-inch rainfall event that currently flows into the Miller Ave. sewers is estimated at 59,350 gallons," Dykman emails. "This is a 118,300-gallon reduction of the approximate 177,650 gallons that flowed to the storm sewers prior to the improvements being done."

And even if the small curbside gardens aren't cared for, each will still capture and help to clean 750 gallons of runoff that otherwise would go straight into the storm sewers, says Bryan. "They just don't look nice with weeds, but yes, they function."

This spring, some drivers have been detouring off winter-ravaged Huron and Jackson to freshly paved Miller. But it's already been patched a couple of times.

In the left turn lane at Maple, a joint separated in the new sanitary sewer. And near Wines, the new, larger storm sewer depressed the residential sanitary sewer beneath it, causing it to leak. "We have to cut the road open again" to fix it, the engineer explains with a sigh.

Pensions Get a B+

"The overriding influence on the pension plan over the past five years was the recession and the stock market crash," says city administrator Steve Powers.

Nancy Walker, executive director of the city's retirement system, says that influence was all bad. At the end of fiscal 2007, the investment fund supporting city's pension plan was valued at $452 million. "At the end of [fiscal year] 2006, $405 million was the plan's value … At end of 2009, the fund was at $322 million."

The fund still hasn't recovered. "Right now it's at $450 million, so basically back up to where it was 2007," Walker says. And at the same time that the recession was taking a bite out of the plan's value, more people began drawing pensions. "There were a lot of cutbacks in personnel, and that increased the number of people in retirement substantially," Walker says.

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JOHN HILTON

The city's pension fund has only now recovered to its pre-recession level. With weaker-than-expected investment returns and more retirees drawing pensions, the city is having to pump more than $12 million a year into the fund.

"So we've had to pay out more."

Powers explains that while "benefits vary between general service employees and police or fire employees, there is one pension plan, and there's always been one pension plan. The most significant difference is between general services and police and fire because police and fire employees have shorter careers and more physically demanding jobs."

The same one-two punch—investment losses combined with rising payouts—has hurt Washtenaw County's pension plan so badly that leaders are talking about raising taxes to cover more than $200 million in unfunded liabilities ("What Price Pensions?," November 2013). This year, the county started putting all new employees into a "defined contribution" plan, which promises to put only a certain amount into the plan. But the city is sticking with a traditional "defined benefit" plan, which guarantees retirees a fixed level of benefits.

"There's a popular misconception that a defined benefits plan is expensive and a defined contribution plan is cheap, but the true difference is who gets the risk," Walker explains. "In a defined benefits plan, the risk is centralized with the plan. In the defined contribution plan, the individual assumes the risk."

"There are other plans that are funded better in the state, but not by much better," says Larry Langer, the city's Chicago-based pension consultant, "and Ann Arbor's assumptions are more conservative."

In addition to a pension fund, the city also has a Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association (VEBA), "a trust fund to fund post-employment health benefits," Powers explains.

"Our VEBA is low [at 38 percent funded], but it's better than most cities'," says Walker. "We still have assets set aside." That's because "the city always made contributions," Powers says. "Some cities didn't always make contributions during the recession."

At the turn of the century, the pension plan was so well funded the city didn't have to contribute new money from its general fund. But then the city slashed its staff, and the recession took a big bite out of plan's value; in the upcoming fiscal year, the city general fund will pay more than $12 million into the fund.

How's the plan doing now? "It's very good compared with five years ago," Powers replies. "The gold standard is 100 percent funded, and pre-recession the city's was 100 percent. The recession dropped it, and now it's at 80 percent. Our advisor gave us a B+."

"It's a hard B+, because the city follows all prudent policies," says Larry Langer, the city's Chicago-based pension fund consultant. "One, they get an analysis done every year. Two, they get our recommendations, do their due diligence, and then invest. Three, they do [long-term] reviews every five years. On those basic elements, I'd give them an A. There are other plans that are funded better in the state, but not by much better, and Ann Arbor's assumptions are more conservative."

"Our plan assumes a 7 percent market return," says Powers. "That's on the low side for the state," adds Walker, "and we've been doing better than that lately. When the last fiscal year ended in June of 2013, return was 11 percent net of fees. Through November of 2013, however, we were 7.9 for pensions and 7.8 for VEBA."

"A typical assumption nationally is about 8 percent," says Langer. "If we moved the city's [assumed rate of return] to 7.5, I could see the funding status increase to 88, 90 percent."

Powers says the city will eventually catch up—he predicts that "we'll reach 100 percent funded by about 2035." Why so long? "It does seem like a long time, but it's not really that long," says Langer. "In the public sector, when you have unfunded liabilities, they're similar to other obligations, and they get amortized over a number of years and paid off like a mortgage.

"The standard is thirty years. Here we'll be there in twenty-three, twenty-four, twenty-five years. It's good. The longer the amortization, the less the [the general fund] contribution and the less [market] volatility."

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COURTESY ANGELINI & ASSOCIATES

A Detroit nonprofit reduced 500–504 Spring to lumber—some of which, coincidentally, found its way to a new downtown restaurant.

Deconstruction

Lumber from a house on Spring will be reused in a restaurant on Liberty.

Soon after Gail Solway—an Ann Arbor pharmacist, massage therapist, and nutritionist—purchased the property at 500–504 Spring Street, she and her architects, Brad and Theresa Angelini, decided that renovating the duplex and bringing it up to code would cost more than demolishing it and starting from scratch.

In the old days, says Theresa Angelini, that would have meant it would have been "bulldozed down, put in a Dumpster, and taken to the landfill." Solway chose to do it the newly fashionable way—and then some. First she invited the Ann Arbor Fire Department to come to the structure and stage rescue drills and practice techniques for fighting fires in old "balloon frame" houses that have open stud spaces all the way from the basement to the attic. Then she invited her next-door neighbors to help themselves to anything they wanted, and Linda Keen took one of the claw-foot tubs. Materials Unlimited paid a nominal fee ("Nominal with a capital 'N,'" says Gail) for the other, along with some doors, radiator covers, and other original pieces they took.

GreenStreet Tree Care came and "dropped" several trees that would be in the way of the new construction and "staged them" so Paul Hickman, owner of Urban Ashes Picture Frame Company, could pick them up. Hickman makes frames out of recycled and repurposed wood, and, thanks to Solway, he says, he now has the wood from "one or two walnuts, one soft maple, one split box elder, and one tree of heaven." That's a lot of frames.

Hickman gave Solway no money for the trees, but he did give her the name of Chris Rutherford, executive director of Architectural Salvage Warehouse of Detroit, a nonprofit that deconstructs houses and removes and recycles pretty much whatever is salvageable and usable. Rutherford's bid for the work was the lowest among several Solway received. And his, she emails, "came with the enormous bonus and satisfaction of knowing that the wood [will] be reused." ASW took the doors, windows, salvageable lumber,

Life in Ann Arbor — Tim Athan

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fixtures, roofing, exterior finishes, rafters, attic subfloor, ceiling joists, studs, and bricks, and gave her a receipt for a nice tax deduction. They even found part of a *Detroit News-Tribune,* dated October 29, 1911, used for insulation. Solway kept the newspaper.

While the Angelinis were working on drawings for Solway's new duplex condo—the other half was bought by a retired U-M Residential College prof—they were also working with two recent U-M grads who were planning a new restaurant, Salads Up, across from the old Borders flagship store. They wanted the entire interior of their restaurant to be built from recycled and repurposed materials.

That search took an unexpected turn when the Angelinis went to see *War Horse* at the Fisher Theater in Detroit. In the lobby of the Fisher Building, they discovered furniture maker James Willer's store, which had just opened two days earlier. The Angelinis loved what they saw—custom tables made out of plank and natural wood and "a cool light fixture made out of corrugated cardboard," says Brad Angelini. They thought of their clients at Salads Up—and later they started to piece together the coincidences: Gail Solway's house was deconstructed by a Detroit company, Willer got his repurposed wood from a company that deconstructed houses, and their clients said their restaurant tables were being made from wood salvaged from a demolished house in Ann Arbor. "So, your house may end up as the table tops in a new salad restaurant on Liberty!" Theresa Angelini emailed Solway. "Wouldn't that be weird?"

Brad Angelini says that's exactly what ended up happening: "It's almost like an organ donor meeting the recipient!"

When asked if she's planning on enjoying a salad at the restaurant, which is scheduled to open in July, Solway says with a smile, "For sure!"

Ann Arbor's Top Ten Political Contributors

Ranked by donations to city council and mayoral candidates, 2009–2013

Dennis Dahlmann	$9,500
Jane & John Lumm	$7,015*
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Leah Gunn	$5,007
LuAnne Bullington	$3,254
Gwen & John Nystuen	$3,025
Ted Annis	$3,010
Leslie Morris	$1,980

This table is a corrected version of one that accompanied our February feature, "A $250,000 Election?" The original mistakenly counted some expenditures made by individuals on behalf of political campaigns as contributions. Totals with an asterisk * include contributions made to the individuals' own campaigns.

calls & letters

Clothesline power

To the editor:

Anne Lawrence, aka The Clothesline Lady (Inside Ann Arbor, April), is a little late to the game. I have been hanging my clothes since 1965 when my 5th child was born and junked my drier the following year. I had a little objection from my then teenage kids when their jeans were stiff after coming off the line. But the advantages far outweighed the disadvantages and I figure I saved the planet and our household energy bills from wasted energy consumption.

Sincerely,
Ethel Lee

question corner

Q. What is the purpose of the "Crash Investigation Site" on eastbound I-94 a short distance east of the Jackson entrance ramp? Since there doesn't seem to be another on the westbound side, how effective is it?

A. Crash investigation sites are established along heavily traveled freeways. These bump-outs provide a safe refuge for vehicles that have been involved in a minor accident, getting them out of the way of freeway traffic while accident reporting is conducted.

Vehicles should be relocated to an investigation site only if safe to drive and only if there have been no injuries.

There aren't many of these sites in Michigan. MDOT selected this one a couple years ago after a study that included traffic congestion and available land. Another study to improve traffic flow on US-23 north of Ann Arbor is considering adding a couple of these sites.

It is true that this eastbound I-94 site won't help westbound traffic (except perhaps to reduce gawker slowdowns), but for a modest outlay it is expected to increase safety and reduce congestion.

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Outside

BOB FELDMAN

Goldfinches in Spring

Gold in the backyard

If you find gold, the precious yellow metal, in its native form in your backyard, please do let us know. We will certainly consider an Outside article about it. However, this article is about living gold that, in its own way, is as precious as a lump of inert metal. We're talking about the American goldfinch.

We photographed this bird last May; this May will show us birds in as fine a feather. They are spectacular now because they have lost their winter plumage and are all spruced up in their spring suits.

Goldfinches are spectacular now because they have lost their winter plumage and are all spruced up in their spring suits.

In the bird world, it is often the male who is the standout; the female is usually plainer. The male chases; the female chooses. And the female goldfinch is known to prefer the male with the brightest colors. So the guys have to look fantastic. Breeding male American goldfinches wear jaunty black caps and sport really grand lemon yellow feathers, with white bands accenting their jet-black wings. They're reasonably common around Ann Arbor, and their luminescence makes them easily identifiable. The female is duller and has no black cap—but she is still a very pretty bird.

Not everyone has the time or inclination to go searching for birds, even ones as pretty as this. But if you have a backyard, a bird feeder can bring them to you. To attract the bird in this photo, we put our two tube bird feeders near some dogwoods, filled them with black oil sunflower seeds, and waited for birds to come to feast. (We also offer water in a birdbath for drinking and bathing.) As goldfinches are known as late nesters, they may return well into summer in social multiples, rather than a single bird at a time.

Look for goldfinches around gardens and weedy woods. They are seed eaters and especially fond of sunflower and thistle. In addition to your own or neighbors' gardens, try the public gardens and the woods at the Arboretum, Matthaei Botanical Gardens, or County Farm Park.

If you don't see a goldfinch, perhaps you will see a different perching bird: a house finch, a titmouse, or a chickadee. And if you don't see a bird you like, you still will have spent some quality time: outside in Ann Arbor.

—Bob & Jorja Feldman

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Crossing the Rainbow Bridge

Healing through our pets

I tucked our little boy, Nathan, into bed and went back to the kitchen to button things up for the night. Five minutes later I heard the sobs. I went back upstairs, pulled him into my lap, and asked, "Is it about Andie?" He gasped "yes!" and curled into a puddle on my chest.

We'd had to euthanize our thirteen-year-old golden retriever, Andie, a few days earlier. Andie was purchased as a puppy for our oldest daughter, Jackie, a year and a half after her little sister, Lauren, was killed. Andie had originally been chosen as a Paws With A Cause puppy, trained to assist people with disabilities. But the breeder thought that we needed this pup to help heal the hole in our lives, and she made sure we got this perfect little female.

I think about that incredible act of kindness, what a gentle gesture that was, and how this sweet dog truly changed our lives, and I am full of overwhelming gratitude, as I was when we first brought her home.

Truly, Andie was a perfect dog. I can't write about her exasperating puppyhood (except for the one time when, left in the car with Jackie's favorite stuffed animal, a Peter Rabbit Jackie had loved since birth, Andie casually ate its head. In her defense, that bunny really did smell like cookies.) I can't tell funny stories about an obnoxious animal that we loved anyway. She was the symbol of our hearts as they began to heal, of our acceptance that life goes on even when our world had stopped existing as we knew it, of embracing that new life. And she was Jackie's companion as she began navigating her adolescence with parents who were trying their hardest to be present for her and who humanly failed on a frequent basis.

COURTESY STOTLAR FAMILY

Andie kept us tethered here, physically and emotionally, as we cared for her over the years, and as we struggled to make sense of life after Lauren's death. Andie's physical presence and unconditional love was the powerful force for our family that helped build the bridge from overwhelming grief to health and healing.

There's a widely quoted poem that begins, "Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge." It addresses our pets' immortality, because surely the animals who share our lives have their own place in heaven. But the more I think of it, the more I think Rainbow Bridge is also a metaphor for the healing and love that pets bring to our lives. Andie kept us tethered here, physically and emotionally, as we cared for her over the years, and as we struggled to make sense of life after Lauren's death. Andie's physical presence and unconditional love was the powerful force for our family that helped build the bridge from overwhelming grief to health and healing.

Two and a half years after Andie joined our family, we were blessed with our third child, Nathan. It's difficult to describe the myriad fears of having a child after another child dies, but for us, Andie's companionship was powerfully reassuring; she provided a tangible contribution that helped dissipate our fear of bringing another child into the world. I truly think she was an angel dog.

Andie was attentive and smart and loving and obedient. When we lived in California for a brief time, she figured out that it was easier to snatch lemons from the tree in the backyard than to wait for me to find her a tennis ball to fetch. (She had the whitest teeth that summer.) She opened doors and gates and learned to count. And she was gentle with us, even when we failed to interact with her on her intelligence level. We are a dog-focused family, but careers and children's needs take up a lot of time, and Andie spent much of her life napping. Still, another good portion of that life was spent in the pond on our property, swimming to fetch tennis balls. I couldn't keep weight on her in the summer months—she spent the days with the kids in the pond, making sure they were safe from stray balls tossed into the water.

In the last few days of her life, when movement was so difficult, she would still play a simple game of fetch, although we had to toss the ball directly into her mouth, a foot away. Then she'd drop it at our feet and wait for the next throw, tail wagging, seemingly accepting of her devastating physical limitations.

As pets age, and we know that their short lives must end before ours, there can be such a fear of the grief we know will come. Jackie shared with me that her biggest fear was that losing Andie would somehow mean losing Lauren again; that the rainbow bridge would come crashing down around our ears. Andie was, after all, more than just the best dog ever, she was the representation of our healing.

But as Andie took less and less joy in her days, we all knew it was time to let her walk across that bridge, pain free. It was her turn; she'd already done so much for us.

What we found since her death is that even though she's not physically here, the bridge holds strong. The healing remains. She left us whole.

As Nathan cried in my arms last night, he asked, "Couldn't we have kept Andie alive for one more day?!"

Oh, my sweetheart, yes. I wish we could have had one more day. And one more after that. And another and another and another after that. But she was so ill, and she was too good a dog to make her endure that for us. Although she would have, readily, tail wagging with patience and acceptance, eagerly waiting for the tennis ball.

But it was her turn.

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My Town

I think she'll be there, waiting for us on the other side of Rainbow Bridge, tail wagging, tennis ball ready. Until then, we will miss her every day.

—Julie Stotlar

Stotlar is founder of the Kite Network peer grief support group. thekitenetwork.org.

Lost in Lakewood

My search for Beaver Cleaver

When I was a wee lad back in the early sixties, I was convinced that Beaver Cleaver, of the TV show *Leave It To Beaver,* lived in our neighborhood, the Lakewood subdivision on the west side of Ann Arbor. I asked my mother to invite him to my seventh birthday party. Unwilling to shatter my illusion, she came up with an excuse of some sort about why he was unable to attend.

The good news that birthday was that I got a brand new bicycle with training wheels. I was only allowed to ride it up and down our short, straight street. But a few days after the party, my mother was in the kitchen making us some peanut butter sandwiches for lunch when the phone rang. It was a friend of hers, and even at that young age I knew that she would be on the phone for a while.

When I finally turned the corner onto my own street, I could see my mother in our front yard. I could hear her screaming at me all the way down the block.

So I decided to go on a little adventure. I got on my new bike and turned down the road that led to the lower part of the neighborhood.

When I came to houses I hadn't seen before, I started to call out, "Beaver! Beaverrrr! Has anyone seen the Beaver? Can Beaver come out to play?"

As you might expect, I got some pretty strange looks from the neighbors. But I was convinced that my TV buddy would run out of one of these houses and warmly greet me. Then he would introduce me to Whitey and Larry Mondello, and they would show me the park where they always played.

I kept riding and calling, but Beaver never answered. Where could he be? Finally, about six blocks from home, there were no more houses, just the lake that I'd heard about. I sat on the dock eating my sandwich and throwing bits of it in the water so the little fish would swim up and eat them. I was starting to think that Beaver probably didn't live in Lakewood, although I was still certain that he lived *somewhere* in Ann Arbor.

As I started the long trip home, I discovered, for the first time, that riding a bicycle uphill is a lot less fun than riding one downhill. With frequent stops to rest, it took me twenty minutes to get back.

When I finally turned the corner onto my own street, I could see my mother in our front yard. I could hear her screaming at me all the way down the block. I toyed with the idea of turning around and returning to the serenity of the lake. But I realized that I would be in even more trouble if I did, so I went home to face the music.

When I got there, she was more angry than I had ever seen her. When she was finished screaming, she asked me where I went and why I'd left the street when she had made my boundaries very clear to me. I told her the truth: "I wanted to find Beaver Cleaver, Mommy. I want to be friends with him."

This calmed her somewhat, and she let me off easy. She even made my favorite lunch, which was (is) a grilled cheese sandwich with tomato soup and chocolate milk.

The emotional day and the physical exertion left me exhausted, so I went to bed early. As I feel asleep I felt bad about not finding the Beaver. But I was convinced that on my next journey I would find Dennis the Menace, and that raised my spirits.

—Matt Phillips

Life at Panera

Coffee shop kindness

I'm sitting at my usual table by the window at the Panera on Washtenaw, sipping tea and revising my manuscript. There is a homeless man in a chair in the corner, his belongings stuffed in a ratty duffle bag next to him. One of the workers approaches him, and I brace myself for an eviction.

Instead, I hear this conversation:

Worker: "Isaac? What time do you need to catch your bus?"

Isaac, mumbling: "I have to be at the church by eleven o'clock."

Worker: "So, I'll come and remind you at 10:30, then?"

Isaac: "Yes, thank you."

The worker returns to the counter where the cookies and muffins are stacked under glass. To her colleague she says, "I'll set my phone for 10:30. That way both of us can remember, OK?" and the other woman nods yes.

On another day a commotion outside the front window catches my eye. A woman is frantic, screaming for her son, clutching at her head. Customers leave their tables and coffee and run to her, asking what's wrong. But she can't hear them. She is in her private world of terror—a parent's worst nightmare: someone has taken her son, she is sure. She screams his name over and over, *"George! George!"* A man

runs down the street calling for the boy; others scramble back into Panera, wide-eyed, searching for the missing child. The woman can no longer stand, and other women, strangers, hold her up, comforting her as best they can. Suddenly one of the regulars from Panera, the one who ran down the sidewalk, comes back into view. He yells to the distraught mother, "He's in GameStop!" She folds to her knees as her child runs to her, unsure what is wrong. When you're five, sometimes you just want to play a video game.

Isaac, the homeless man, is back. He is standing in front of Panera, unsure what to do. It's clear he doesn't have money for a cup of coffee, and his integrity prevents him from simply walking into the place for warmth.

On an early spring morning, Panera is mostly empty, the breakfast crowd now on their way to work. I tap on my computer at my table by the window, typing word after word on paper, hoping a story will flow. Just after 9 a.m. the church ladies begin assembling, one by one, like soft lavender flowers winding their way into a bouquet. The ninety-year-old in charge commandeers three round tables and begins moving chairs together. I know better than to ask if she needs help. Soon more women arrive and drift to the tables, their canes and plastic purses slung over the back of their chairs. I assume their conversations will be of God or, perhaps, the ailments of the elderly. Instead the bits that drift to me are of Obama and Russia and the U-M basketball team. The manager comes over to their table with a tray of muffins and pastries. "We made too many," he says, and shakes his head. Every morning that the church ladies are there, they make too many.

Days later Isaac, the homeless man, is back. He is standing in front of Panera, unsure what to do. It's clear he doesn't have money for a cup of coffee, and his integrity prevents him from simply walking into the place for warmth. He is not aggressive enough to beg, and I watch as he stands against the building, out of the way, eyes downcast.

Soon a man, perhaps a graduate student (judging from his neatly trimmed beard and black glasses), approaches Isaac. A conversation between them begins just three feet from me, but we are divided by a pane of glass, so I hear nothing. Isaac nods slowly, barely making eye contact, then follows the man into Panera. The man orders a bagel and coffee and softly tells Isaac to order whatever he wants. When they pick up their food, the man briefly and almost invisibly pats Isaac on the shoulder before he walks out. Isaac sits in his regular chair near the front, his ancient duffle at his feet, and begins to eat his lunch.

—Mary Rexer-Bluhm

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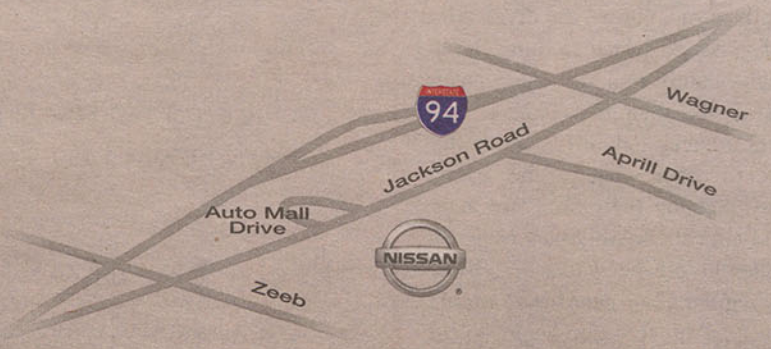
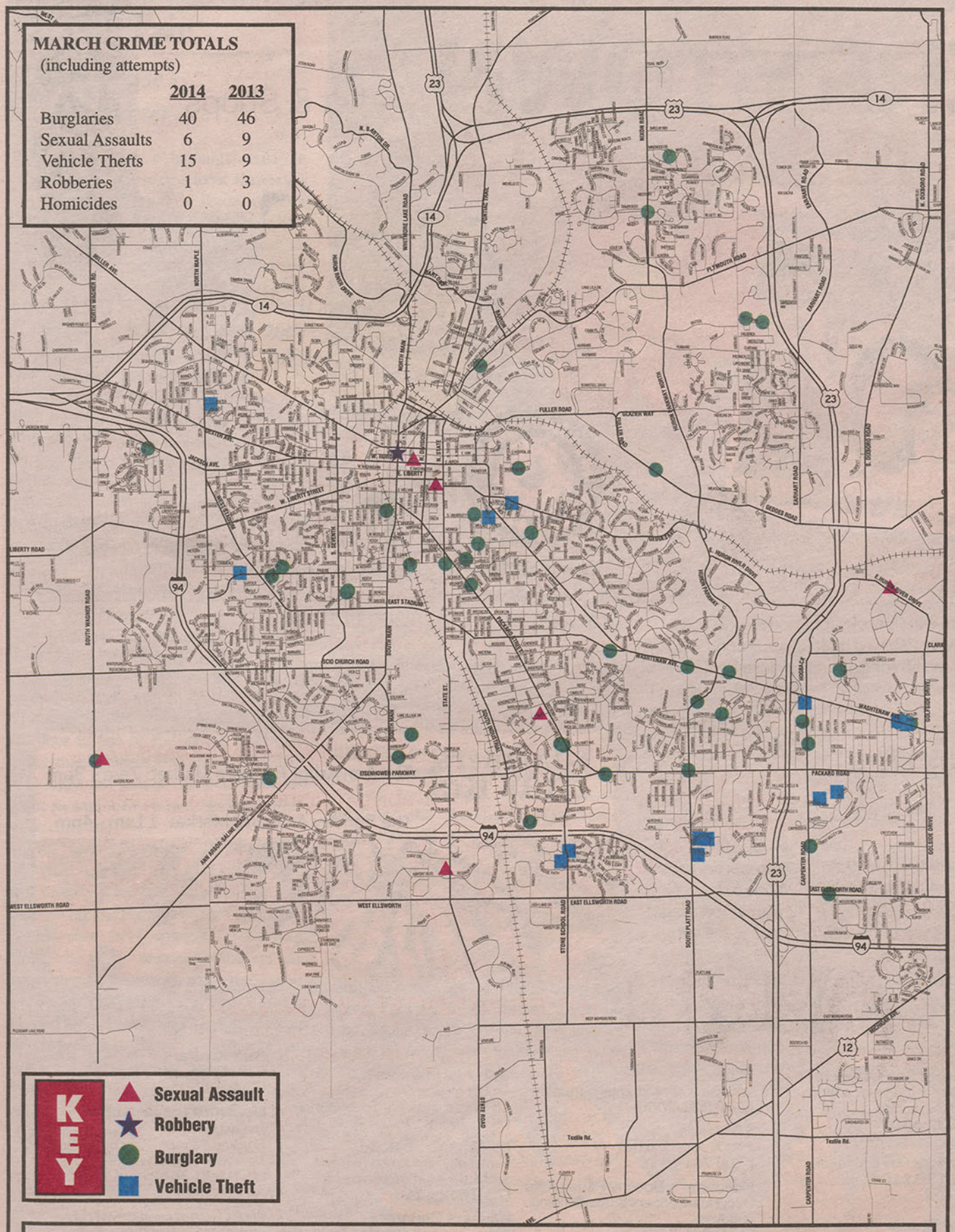


CrimeMap

MARCH CRIME TOTALS
(including attempts)

	2014	2013
Burglaries	40	46
Sexual Assaults	6	9
Vehicle Thefts	15	9
Robberies	1	3
Homicides	0	0



These are the major crimes and attempted crimes at Ann Arbor addresses reported by the Ann Arbor Police Department and the public safety departments of the U-M and Pittsfield Township in **March 2014.** Placement is approximate.

The Ann Arbor and Pittsfield departments have moved to a centralized record-keeping system run by crimemapping.com. As a result, they no longer are able to distinguish crimes from attempts, or sexual assaults by acquaintances from assaults by strangers.

If you need police help in an emergency, call **911.** If you have information about a crime, call your police department's **anonymous 24-hour tip line: 996–3199 in Ann Arbor, (800) 863–1355 on campus,** or **944–1238 in Pittsfield Township.** If you have questions about a crime shown here, call **Ann Arbor Neighborhood Watch (994–8775, Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–4 p.m.),** the **U-M Department of Public Safety (763–1131),** or the **Pittsfield Township Department of Public Safety (944–4911).**

The box at the top of the map compares the number of crimes reported in March 2014 and March 2013.

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Ann Arborites

Latania Fair

Alpha House's troubleshooter

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Fair says parents are often "hurting" and "feel defeated" when they arrive at the shelter. Her first priority is to "help them feel safe and meet their basic, critical needs." She has a matter-of-fact demeanor but is quick with a laugh and a smile to reassure anxious parents and bewildered or excited kids.

When there's a late-night crisis at Alpha House, the local shelter for homeless families, shelter director Latania Fair gets the call. It may be a staff member wondering whether a client needs to go to the emergency room. Or perhaps, Fair says, someone is "feeling hopeless and about to leave" the shelter. Then there was the time the basement flooded. Sometimes Fair can handle the problem over the phone; other times, she drives over to the sprawling building on Jackson Road.

A social worker, Fair, fifty, has been with the Interfaith Hospitality Network for fourteen years. When she started, the shelter was still housed in local churches, which took turns hosting homeless families. In 2001, St. Joe's donated the building on Jackson, a former treatment center, and volunteers refurnished it with beds, toys, and play equipment.

As Fair leads a tour of the building, a couple of elementary-age kids returning from school bound through the front door. A mother and her young daughter hang out on a couch in a common room that's lined with bookshelves and a TV. Fair unlocks the door to one of six private bedrooms. Other than a single bed and a bunk bed, it's empty; the family that slept there last night moved today to an Ypsilanti apartment complex.

Fair says parents are often "hurting" and "feel defeated" when they arrive. Her first priority is to "help them feel safe and meet their basic, critical needs." In a bright yellow crew neck sweater, khakis, and clogs, she has a matter-of-fact demeanor but is quick with a laugh and a smile to reassure anxious parents and bewildered or excited kids. Former Alpha House executive director Julie Steiner says that "people don't get" the "extreme stress" produced by homelessness. "Latania totally gets that and knows almost instinctively how to work with them."

Steiner recalls, "People have said, 'She can be really tough on me, but I know she cares.' "

It's dinnertime, and a church group is serving tacos. A mother holds her infant on her lap while she keeps an eye on her energetic preschooler across the table. "I came here to start over completely—to get back on my feet," she says. She's been at the shelter for about a month while she looks for permanent housing. During the day her kids are in child care, and she goes to a job with help from the Michigan Works program.

The years 2006 to 2009 were "really, really bad," explains Fair. "What was a recession for us was a depression for them … There is somewhat of a rebound in the economy, [but] it's hard for these families to get a second or third chance for past mistakes or evictions."

In addition to nearly twenty part- and full-time staff, about forty religious congregations and civic groups provide volunteer support to Alpha House, including cooking and serving meals, mentoring, child care, and spending the night as backup for the paid staff. Families meet regularly with a case manager and have access to parenting classes, legal support, and other services. "About four or five times a year," Fair says, she has to ask a family to leave because members can't follow the program's structure, or break rules prohibiting drugs and alcohol. "She's good about keeping things pretty black and white," says Alpha House executive director Nicole Adelman, "Her expectations are clear."

Families can stay at Alpha House for only ninety days, so staffers work to find them permanent housing as quickly as possible. It's not easy: though many residents work, their average family income is less than 30 percent of Washtenaw County's median, and Ann Arbor has little housing for families headed by someone making only $8.50–$10 an hour.

Fair says about 90 percent of families eventually do find housing in Washtenaw County. Alpha House keeps in touch with them for a year after they move out, and it's not unusual for a former client to greet Fair in a grocery store. When space is available, new families are referred by Housing Access for Washtenaw County after a phone screening.

Raised in Southfield, the daughter of a daycare provider and a medical technologist, Fair attended Eastern. She says a counselor's comment that she had a "keen personality and that I tended to connect to people immediately" influenced her decision to get her bachelor's in social work. She began as a case manager with local nonprofits, including Catholic Social Services and the county's Community Mental Health program. When a supervisor at the Interfaith Hospitality Network set out to recruit her, she volunteered for two weeks before she took the leap. The experience convinced her that "I could do this—I could make an impact."

Eight years ago, Fair met her future fiancé, Larry Siden, a software developer, when he volunteered as a tutor at Alpha House. They plan to wed this year—her first marriage and his second. "It's time," she smiles. Although she's active in Ypsilanti's First United Methodist Church, and Siden is Jewish, the differences in religion or race (she's African American, he's white) don't matter, she says. Her mom keeps nagging her to set the date for what she says will be a "small, low-key" ceremony.

Several years ago, Fair took in a teen foster daughter who spent her high school years with her. "Over time she grew to trust me," Fair says. Now she's a senior in college, and they stay in touch by texting. "I'm seen as a friend who helped her during adolescence."

Fair swims, enjoys "going out with dear friends," and watching HGTV and cooking shows. These diversions, she says, are the reason "I'm able to come back [to work], because I try to have a full life outside." Of course, she never knows when the phone will ring at night—and Alpha House will beckon again.

—Shelley Daily

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$ WHAT PRICE transit ?

Approval of the millage "would be a game changer," says AAATA CEO Michael Ford. "It will allow us to have more buses on existing routes, more direct routes, more night service and weekend service, and more service to more communities."

The AAATA seeks a millage to expand its service. Its former treasurer is among those who oppose it.

by James Leonard

If Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, and Ypsilanti Township voters approve the transit millage on the May 6 ballot, property taxes in the three communities will go up $35 a year for every $100,000 in taxable value. That would increase local taxpayers' contribution to the recently expanded Ann Arbor *Area* Transportation Authority by 34 percent, or $4.4 million a year. What would they do with the money?

"It would be a game changer," says Michael Ford, the authority's CEO. "It will allow us to have more buses on existing routes, more direct routes, more night service and weekend service, and more service to more communities."

"People really need to know how widely demanded a better transit system is out there," says Mike Garfield, director of the Ecology Center and a leading millage advocate. "National ridership is the highest it's been since the late fifties, and ridership on the AAATA is up too."

Mayor John Hieftje considers the millage "vital to the community. It's the single best thing we can do to improve the economy and quality of life in this region."

Though Hieftje is retiring this year, all four candidates to succeed him favor the millage. So do Ypsilanti's mayor and city council, Ypsilanti Township's supervisor and board, and the six county commissioners representing the three municipalities. It's also backed by the presidents of the U-M, EMU, and WCC; the Ann Arbor / Ypsilanti Regional Chamber of Commerce; the Michigan Suburban Alliance; the Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living; and the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice; and many local businesses.

But it also has experienced and capable opponents, including former AAATA treasurer Ted Annis, political activists Libby Hunter and Don Salberg, and former board of education member Kathy Griswold. Griswold and Annis helped block a schools millage in 2009, and Griswold played a key role in the 2012 defeat of a millage to replace the downtown library. With others, they've formed a group called Better Transit Now to oppose the transit millage.

"I'm in support of more transit hours," says Annis, a retired computer entrepreneur. "But we believe the AAATA should do more with its existing millage. They don't need a 34 percent tax increase to do it. They could fund it with greater efficiencies and less expenses."

> **Despite what seems like widespread support for the millage, the opponents could very well stop it. "Millages are not hard to defeat," says mayor John Hieftje. "It's very easy to come up with a story to create doubt."**

Despite what seems like wide support for the millage, the opponents could very well stop it. "Millages are not hard to defeat," says Hieftje. "They're asking people to do something extra, which is hard enough, and it's very easy to come up with a story to create doubt."

And the mayor says money can be an even bigger factor in millage votes than other elections: "Campaign finance reporting is not nearly as transparent as in a city council race, and much higher levels of contributions are allowed by law. Look at the campaign to defeat the library millage. Just a few individuals put a lot of money into it, and it was defeated."

Most of the millage's advocates take public transportation at least occasionally. Michael Ford says he rides the bus "as often as I can," though for him it's frequently professional: "I'll be out tomorrow riding the routes. I often ride with the union president."

In Ford's opinion, "Ann Arbor's got a really good public transit system"—but it could be even better with longer hours and more frequent service. "Ypsilanti has challenges. There's not enough service and not enough hours of service." It's even tougher in Ypsilanti Township. "South of I-94, there are people who can't get to the malls or the library or the doctor's by other means, so they need public transit—and we hear constantly that they need more."

Riders in all three communities would get more buses if the millage passes. "We have a comprehensive plan," says Ford. "We're looking to increase the level of service overall, to have more late night service, more early morning service, more weekends, and more bus stops and shelters."

"Night service and weekend service are critical," adds Mary Stasiak, the AAATA's manager of community relations. "We see people offered jobs who can't take them because they can't get to them."

Ford says the AAATA will support the millage "through education—and going to a lot of meetings: city councils, community centers, social services, neighborhood associations, and businesses."

Menlo Innovations CEO Rich Sheridan says he's donating to the pro-millage effort and lobbying other software companies to support it, because "the talent we have expects it. The folks who work here could work anywhere in the country, and they generally vote with their feet. Boomers couldn't wait to get a car, but millennials, not so much. They want it to be a choice and not a requirement. They value public transit and use it." At Menlo, he says, "We polled forty employees, and twelve use the AAATA … and another six said they'd use it if it had more buses more places more often."

Carolyn Grawi and Lloyd Shelton of the Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living say they're getting something from the AAATA right now: freedom of movement. Grawi, the nonprofit's VP and chief program officer, is legally blind and says she uses public transit "constantly." She says the center is supporting the millage by letting "our volunteers volunteer with the campaign and do phone banking or putting flyers out and going door-to-door."

Shelton, a U-M grad student in sociology and AACIL intern who gets around in a wheelchair, says that public transit is the key reason he moved here from Pontiac: "I can move freely about the city, and moving freely shapes you and your future." The millage, he says, is "a matter of priorities. Ann Arbor is growing whether people want it or not, but public transit is not expanding. Unless we want more congestion, it's irresponsible to vote against it."

Garfield, who rides the bus to the Ecology Center's downtown office several times a month, says the advocacy group has "some staff devoting time to publicizing it, and volunteers are putting time in as well. We've opened the office to tele-

PHOTOS: MARK BIALEK

From plate to compost – taking the next step in composting

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Curbside Collection

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Optional COMPOST CARTS in 35-, 64-, and 96-gallon sizes are available for a one-time purchase price of $25 each from the city's Customer Service Center. The center is open weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. at 301 East Huron Street, 99.GREEN (734.994.7336).

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PROHIBITED MATERIALS for compost collection:

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- recyclables
- stones, sod and dirt
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- painted or treated wood

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phone support. We also hope to raise enough to print educational materials."

Mayor Hieftje says he usually walks or bikes to City Hall from his Burns Park home, but "I have been known to put my bike on the rack on the front of the bus." He argues that expanded transit "will help the economy and be good for business. Employees can get to work without cars, which means no cost for parking and also means less parking structures. And it will help people with affordable housing, because a family could live with one car instead of two. That puts $500 a month back in their pocket."

"For some people [even one] car is not an option because of income or disability," adds city councilmember Chuck Warpehoski. "And to give them better service means an Ann Arbor that works for everybody … I know someone living in Ypsilanti who lost her job, went to WCC to get retrained for medical work, and was offered a couple of jobs at the University Hospital. But she couldn't take them because the shifts she was offered were at night and she couldn't get public transportation."

Warpehoski directs the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice and says the group is supporting the millage through "canvassing and phone banking, and we're also working through our ties to the religious community to get the word out."

"There are human service needs that can be met by increased transit," agrees county commissioner Andy LaBarre. "This is a modest, common sense plan that pays for specified services, and for me the benefits are enough to trade tax dollars for services."

"I'm in support of more transit hours," says Ted Annis (with fellow opponents Kathy Griswold, left, and Libby Hunter). "But we believe AAATA should do more with its existing millage."

The folks from Better Transit Now say they're all for improving bus service. Of the four interviewed, three take the bus at least occasionally. Ted Annis says he would but "it doesn't come close to where I live."

Annis allows that "for what the AAATA does primarily, it gets good marks." And he agrees that more service would be better. In fact, he says, "we want more than what they want."

But the former AAATA treasurer insists "they don't need a 34 percent tax increase to do it. They could fund everything they want in Ann Arbor and all over by doing three or four things. I'm a successful businessman, and I didn't run my business this way."

Annis says that he sent the board a letter proposing spending cuts in 2009, but got no response. "I went through the list of fifty-two management people," he says, "and I've determined more than half are nonessential." In a follow-up email, he explains that their jobs are "not related to or needed for the operation of the fixed-route and on-demand bus services."

Though he'll "name no names," Annis says that "two of the three highest paid [AAATA employees] should have been retired years ago, and the marketing and community relations people could all be eliminated because they're superfluous."

"I've worked in the corporate world, and I'd get put in charge of departments and reduce them by 50 percent," Griswold says. "These people [AAATA administrators] work hard, but what is their role in the bus system?"

Kathy Griswold agrees that management staff should be cut. "I've worked in the corporate world, and I'd get put in charge of departments and reduce them by 50 percent. That led to some nice promotions. These people work hard, and they think they're important, but what is their role in a bus system?"

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Community relations manager Stasiak responds in an email that "all of AAATA's positions, including those in marketing and community relations, are essential in providing safe, reliable, efficient, effective and convenient public transportation service." She adds that the "52 employees who are not in the labor union are not all administrators or managers: 11 work in operations (includes dispatchers, field supervisors, a paratransit coordinator, etc.); seven work in maintenance (includes supervisors, electronic technicians etc.); and 35 employees working in human resources, labor relations, security oversight, finance, purchasing, service development, planning, grant management, information technologies, legislative affairs, capital asset management, administration, and community relations."

Annis notes that in 2012, the authority "spent $200,000 on advertising and $377,000 on advertising and promotional media." In an email, he describes that as "the marketing campaign to convince the taxpayers to approve the proposed millage."

Not so, writes Stasiak. "First and foremost, community relations department employees provide real-time customer service to riders, potential riders, and the community [and] vital information about transit service changes and improvements, detours, delays." Beyond responding to phone calls and emails, she says they also "produce and distribute the route maps and schedules [plus] other routine and urgent service information found in buses, on the internet at bus stops and in shelters, oversee the development and informational content on its websites," and then cites eleven other tasks they perform. AAATA's spending specifically related to the May vote, she writes, totaled $15,625 at the end of March.

Better Transit Now's Don Salberg has a different objection to marketing. "I don't know how the AAATA justifies marketing costs if ridership hasn't increased in four years. Ridership increased from 2004 to 2009. It's flattened out since then." He calculates that it's grown "only 5 percent in the last four years."

Salberg adds that the marketing can't take much credit for the earlier increases, since they "were accompanied by the introduction of the go!pass and the U-M subsidized rides."

Menlo Innovations CEO Rich Sheridan (center, with Carolyn Grawi and Mike Garfield) says he's lobbying other software companies to support the millage because "the talent we have expects it."

Stasiak points to substantial growth over the last decade: a 53.4 percent increase from 2004 to 2013, when a record 6,693,171 rides were logged. Even after a recessionary dip in 2010, she calculates the rise in the last four years at 6.3 percent.

Annis says the AAATA could also reduce overtime pay. "I got along extremely well with the union, but the overtime is troublesome. It was $455,000 a year [in 2007–08.] That's excessive, and I asked management to cut it."

They did, says Stasiak. "Overtime in 2013 was $405,000." But, she adds, "some work shifts must include a certain amount of overtime to accommodate the location of a driver at the end of his or her 8-hour workday. The AAATA's use of overtime is standard practice for the public transit industry."

Former county administrator Bob Guenzel served on a task force that evaluated the AAATA's expansion plan. "We looked at a couple things," he says. "Were the projections good for increased services and ridership, and would the millage meet those needs? And we found their assumptions were reasonable and the millage would raise enough revenue."

Guenzel finds Annis's claim that the AAATA could pay for the expansion by cutting staff and overtime "not creditable, … The figures we had showed they compared favorably to their peers. The observation I have is they're very well run."

Given all this, will the millage pass?

Ypsilanti mayor Paul Schreiber expects "Ypsilanti voters to support it. Ypsilanti went for a millage to increase the current

level of service in 2010, and it passed three to one."

Ypsilanti Township's supervisor Brenda Stumbo says that while she tries not to predict what voters will do, "I will say that we have not heard of opposition to the requested millage, and people in general believe the buses need to run more frequently."

But even if voters in Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township overwhelmingly approve the millage, it needs a majority of all votes cast to pass—and Ann Arbor has a third more voters than its two eastern neighbors combined.

Michael Ford thinks it'll pass in Ann Arbor: "All the statistics have given us a high degree of confidence." Garfield is hopeful but admits that "millages are hard to pass. A huge cross-section of the community supports it, and only a vocal minority opposes it, but sometimes that's all it takes."

John Hieftje is likewise "hopeful" Ann Arbor voters will approve the millage. He notes that the original 2.5 mill transit tax was "allowed to decay. Now it's down to a bit under 2 so this [.7 increase] resets it plus a little bit but in return for a large expansion of service."

Chuck Warpehoski thinks it will come down to voter turnout. "I believe a majority of people understand the value of public transit," he says, "and if most people get out to the polls, it'll pass."

County commissioner Andy LaBarre also hopes the millage will pass, but admits "May elections are hard to tell. You could argue that the folks who come out for May elections may not support millage increase."

That's the hope of Better Transit Now's members—who acknowledge they don't actually have a plan for better transit right now. "We're not evaluating bus service in Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township," says Annis. "We'll have that conversation after the millage is voted down. It's really a two-phase campaign. Phase one is to do what we can do to defeat the millage and so get the AAATA to cut the pork. Phase two is improved service."

"We know we're the underdogs," says Kathy Griswold, "so we're working as smart as we can." Griswold says the group is also looking past the millage vote to August's primary, when "we have an opportunity for major changes on the [AAATA] board with a new mayor and as many as five new councilmembers."

If the millage doesn't pass, however, there's a good chance it'll be back—though the campaign's leaders prefer, as Garfield says, "to cross that bridge when we come to it."

"They'll try again," Hieftje predicts. "That's what happened in Grand Rapids," where voters turned down a transit millage in 2009, only to approve it in 2011.

"A lot of transportation improvement millages succeed the first time around," says Ypsilanti Township resident and millage supporter Larry Krieg. "And with those that fail, you can tell why, and if you address those issues and put it on the ballot again, it will pass." ■

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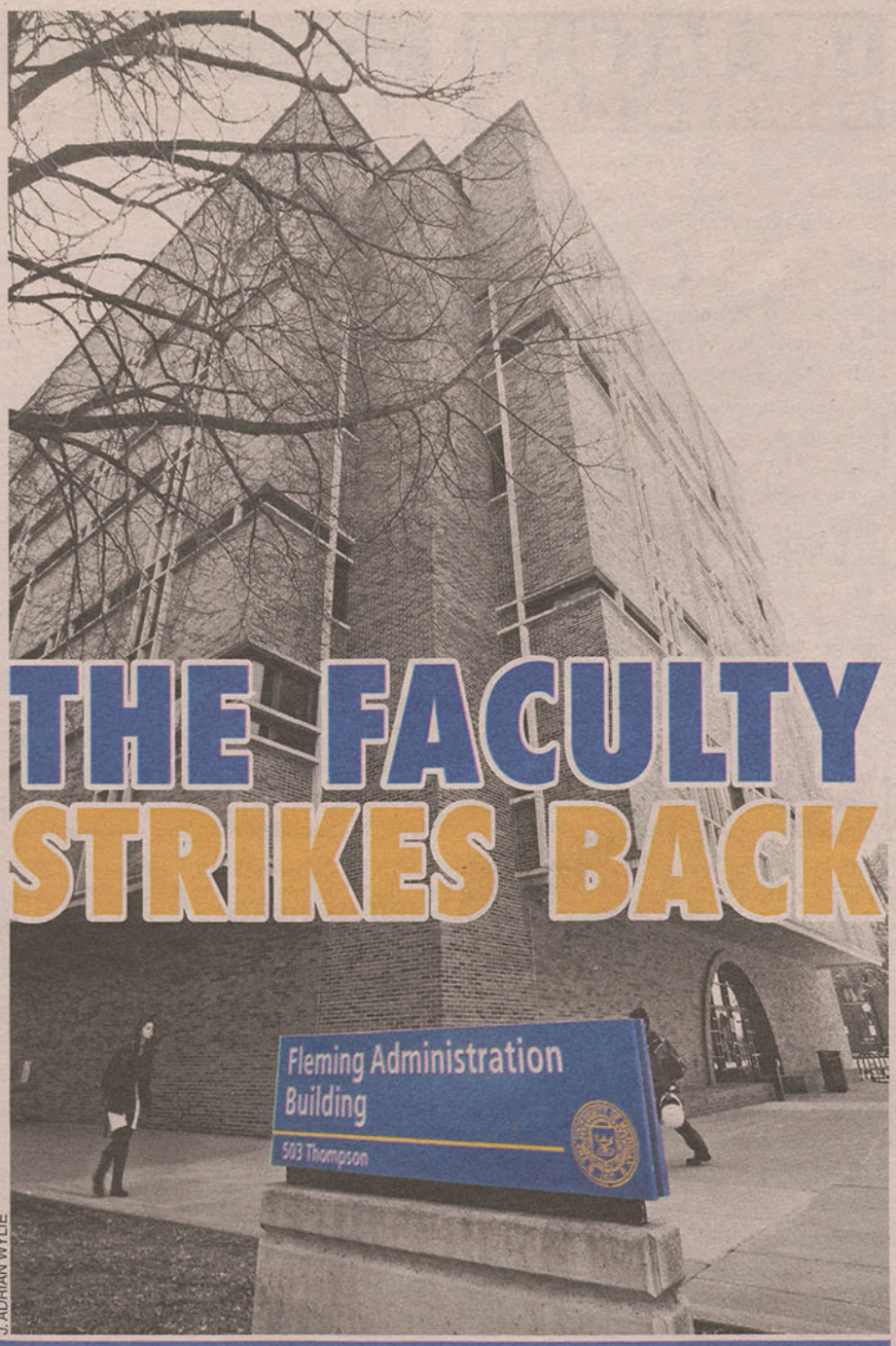

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THE FACULTY STRIKES BACK

ARE U-M ADMINISTRATORS OVERPAID?

by Eve Silberman & John Hilton

"The secret bonuses blew me away!"

That's U-M history prof Juan Cole, describing his response to the news that a growing number of university employees—chiefly top administrators—are receiving hefty supplements to their publicly reported salaries. Between 2004 and 2013, payments in four categories of "additional pay" more than tripled, to $46 million.

Cole was one of several professors who got an advance look at a forty-page "open letter" to the U-M regents, posted online at michiganexposed.info. Unsigned, and provided to the Observer by a source who requested anonymity, it contends that "The University is in desperate and urgent need of fiscal reform." Twenty-four pages of appendices detail the unpublished payments by individual and unit—including $16 million over ten years in intercollegiate athletics, $9.8 million in the office of the chief financial officer, and $5.5 million in the investment office.

The Observer did not have access to the original data, which appears to be drawn from internal university records. To test its accuracy, the magazine submitted Freedom of Information Act requests for the information detailed in ten line items; the responses matched within $1,000 or less.

The scale of the payments, and their secrecy, shocked faculty who spoke to the Observer. "I think it's really a scandal," says professor Ivette Perfecto of the School of Natural Resources and Environment. "Especially when tuition is increasing so much—students are leaving with loans [of] twenty, thirty, fifty thousand. At the same time, we're seeing this increase in bonuses in top administration."

The payments—categorized as "salary supplement," "administrative differential," "services unrelated to appointment," and "additional duties differential"—have never been included in employees' published salaries. And the letter argues that those published salaries also are out of line. A table compares base salaries for the highest-paid administrators at the U-M with those of their counterparts at four other leading public universities—UC–Berkeley, Texas, UCLA, and Virginia.

Depending on position, Michigan's average faculty salaries range from 9 percent lower to 8 percent higher than their peers' at those four schools. But the anonymous writers calculate that administrators here make 27 to 41 percent more—and that's not counting Michigan's bonuses.

Cole isn't bothered by the salaries. "Some people might say the U-M finances didn't take the kind of hit in 2008–09 that the Ivy League did," he says. "We were a better-run institution, and maybe somebody should be rewarded for that." But he finds the bonuses "just mind-boggling …

"Had there not been this bloating of higher administration that seems to be in the tens of million of dollars, would anyone even feel the necessity for AST?"

"I really think it's a scandal," says SNRE prof Ivette Perfecto. The open letter tallies bonus payments totalling $46 million in 2013.

AST stands for "administrative services transformation." Developed at a cost of $18 million by the consulting firm Accenture, the program would eliminate more than 300 support jobs in academic units, replacing them with a smaller number of positions in a new "shared services center" off-campus.

Fawwaz Ulaby, an engineering prof and former VP for research, told the Observer last fall that by removing in-house support staff, AST would reduce his productivity. The support person he shares with seven other faculty members "makes one-fifth of my salary," he said at the time, "and I can do her job about one-fifth as well."

Ulaby said that he raised those concerns privately within the administration, but was politely ignored. So just before Thanksgiving he posted an open letter online protesting the plan. Within three days, more than 1,000 faculty members had signed it.

"I've never seen any reaction like that from the faculty," says Perfecto, who's been here since 1990. "I think this is quite unprecedented."

Some signers objected for humanitarian reasons—most of the employees scheduled for reassignment are older women, "the most vulnerable part of the labor market," in the words of history professor Dario Gaggio. Some were troubled that both Rowan Miranda, who led AST as associate vice president for finance, and his boss, chief financial officer Tim Slottow, had previously worked for Accenture. And many shared Ulaby's concern that losing in-house support staff would impair their ability to do the work they were hired for—teaching, research, and winning grants.

Asked about AST, chemistry prof Mike Morris replies, "My blood pressure just went up 50 points." Morris is wary of the administration's latest effort to cut costs through centralization because of problems with an earlier effort, an expense management system called Concur. "It has its good points—it gets reimbursement back to you real fast," he says. But "it assumes we're traveling like corporate sales executives … We now have to have a person who spends most of her day filling out the travel reports, [because the] program is based on assumptions that don't apply: Faculty don't travel first class; we don't stay in high-end hotels.

"AST was proposed as a way of economizing, and [that is] absolutely necessary," Morris says. But, he adds, "the amount saved keeps going down." By last fall, the projected ten-year savings already had shrunk from $270 million to $50–$60 million—and that was before it was sent back for further review after the protest. "And while they're [administrators] worried about saving a couple of million dollars" a year through AST, he adds, "they're rewarding themselves much more handsomely."

The open letter notes that in November 2012, president Mary Sue Coleman, provost Phil Hanlon, and CFO Slottow all had base salaries in excess of half a million. In December, the *Ann Arbor News* reported that in 2013, the base pay for the university's top sixteen administrators totaled $7.5 million.

"We see where the real [administrative] bloat is," says women's studies prof Maria Cotera. "It's in the upper administration."

Regent Larry Deitch dismisses such criticism as "simplistic and unsophisticated … The university is a complex enterprise. We are competing with both public and private universities and the private business sector for talent. We cannot be as great as we aspire to be without top talent, and all of those people … have been paid consistent with the market. In fact, a strong case can be made for the fact that they are underpaid and have worked at Michigan because they love it and are supportive of its mission."

University spokesperson Rick Fitzgerald makes the same case: "While we are very proud to be a public institution, we compete with both public and private universities for top talent on the faculty and among staff. We need that top talent across all areas to remain a university that offers students a world-class education.

"U-M is a very large and complex institution with total expenditures at $6.7 billion. That is, for example, significantly larger than one of our strong competitors, UC–Berkeley, which is at $2.1 billion in total expenditures.

"Given that, our top administrators are paid to remain competitive among our private and public peers and commensurate with that larger, more complex scope … Between 1993 and 2007, U-M was one of the few leading universities that actually reduced the number of administrators (by 5.5 percent). During that same period, the number of full-time instructional, research, and service employees increased significantly."

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THE FACULTY STRIKES BACK

"[A] strong case can be made for the fact that [administrators] are underpaid and have worked at Michigan because they love it and are supportive of its mission," says regent Larry Deitch.

Fitzgerald adds that U-M administrators are "paid consistent with the market." While acknowledging that faculty and staff get "additional compensation," he notes this is "most often paid to faculty who take on administrative duties."

Bentley Library director Terry McDonald, a former longtime dean of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, urges caution when making comparisons between U-M and other universities. For example, Berkeley's administrative salaries may be lower than Michigan, he says, but Berkeley has a "much better defined [benefit] pension" plan than Michigan. While it's true that new administrators at Michigan are being hired in at noticeably higher rates than in the past, he adds, that's happening everywhere.

If so, it's not evident in the data attached to the open letter. Its position-by-position comparison between Michigan and four other major public institutions as of November 2012 shows that Coleman's base salary was $28,000 less than the president of the University of Texas at Austin—but also $118,000 to $187,000 more than the top officials at Virginia, Berkeley, and UCLA. Slottow's $568,000 base salary made him by far the best-paid financial VP, outearning his counterparts by $118,000 (Virginia) to $251,000 (UCLA). The only top official whose base pay was lower than most of her peers' was VP for external relations Cynthia Wilbanks, but with her additional payment of $53,375 added to her $286,000 salary, she was the best paid in the group. (California universities report all compensation; whether Texas and Virginia pay bonuses is unknown.) And 2012 was not unusual: in the past seven years, Wilbanks' additional payments total more than $300,000.

The payments are identified as "administrative differential," which Fitzgerald says is "most often paid to faculty members who take on administrative duties" in addition to their teaching work. He says that in Wilbanks's case, they reflected additional administrative duties, including doubling as interim VP for two other units.

According to the open letter, Wilbanks is just one of more than two dozen full-time administrators who've received such "ADM" bonuses in the past decade, including human resources staffers, several deans, and then vice provost Martha Pollack. Pollack's ADM was reduced last year, after she promoted to provost—at a salary of $450,000.

The faculty the Observer spoke to don't buy the argument that the university needs to pay corporate-level salaries to attract top talent. Instead, they see it as a sign that the institution has lost its way—and they cite AST as Exhibit A. "People who are making these decisions [to hire Accenture] were people who came in from the very company we contracted with," says women's studies prof Cotera. "That ought to be offensive to any right-thinking person." For Cotera, the bonuses revealed in the open letter only confirm her belief "that we have been occupied by the corporate sector."

Cole, the historian, sees a larger context but reaches much the same conclusion: "Because the state legislature has diverted money from supporting higher education to other things … what could the institution do but … find other sources of funding, and therefore it's been forced to be more like a corporation.

"Once you become more like a corporation, you start acting like a corporation—and you start giving big secret bonuses."

In an email, regent Andrea Fischer Newman defends administrators' pay, explaining that "our goal is to remain successful at recruiting and retaining the best faculty and staff, and that is in part achieved by offering a competitive compensation package that has been benchmarked with peers." She also objects to

TODD NEEDLE / MICHIGAN DAILY

Chief financial officer Tim Slottow got a $50,000 "salary supplement" in 2012, but that was just a fraction of the $9.8 million in additional payments staffers in his office collected over the last ten years. Slottow recently announced that he's leaving the U-M to take the presidency of the for-profit University of Phoenix.

describing the bonuses as "secret," noting that "[c]ompensation information is publicly available, as you know, since your publication has requested and received such information." Of course, without the leak, the Observer wouldn't have known the information existed.

The letter's authors call for "[a]rresting the steep increases in salaries to top administrators, reforming the secretive bonus culture of the Fleming administration building, terminating the toxic AST project, and refocusing the attention of the University on its core mission of teaching, research, and service."

Whether the regents find that persuasive may depend on how they interpret two recent personnel changes. In December, Rowan Miranda gave up management of the AST project, telling the *Michigan Daily* that he requested the change "because something that should have been an honest disagreement between the faculty and the administration turned out to be very personal and when those things happen, it's just good to get out of the way and depersonalize it." In January, he left Michigan to become treasurer of the University of Chicago.

"Once you become more like a corporation," says historian Juan Cole, "you start acting like a corporation—and you start giving big secret bonuses."

Then, on April 1, Tim Slottow also took a new job—as president of the University of Phoenix, a for-profit business with "campuses" in office buildings around the world. In reporting the move, the *Detroit Free Press* quoted a 2010 *Bloomberg News* report that its previous president earned $1.8 million a year.

That can be seen as either proof of the argument that top talent deserves top compensation—or an indictment of the merger of corporate and academic cultures. According to Wikipedia, the University of Phoenix "attained a peak enrollment of almost 600,000 students in 2010, but its numbers have declined almost 60 percent since 2010. The enrollment drop has been attributed to operational changes amid criticism of high debt loads and low job prospects for university students."

Slottow's presumed pay raise, then, will come with serious financial and ethical challenges. But the departing administrator gets no sympathy from Maria Cotera.

"It's very appropriate," she says of his return to the corporate sector. "I thought it was an April Fool's joke. It couldn't be more perfect." ■

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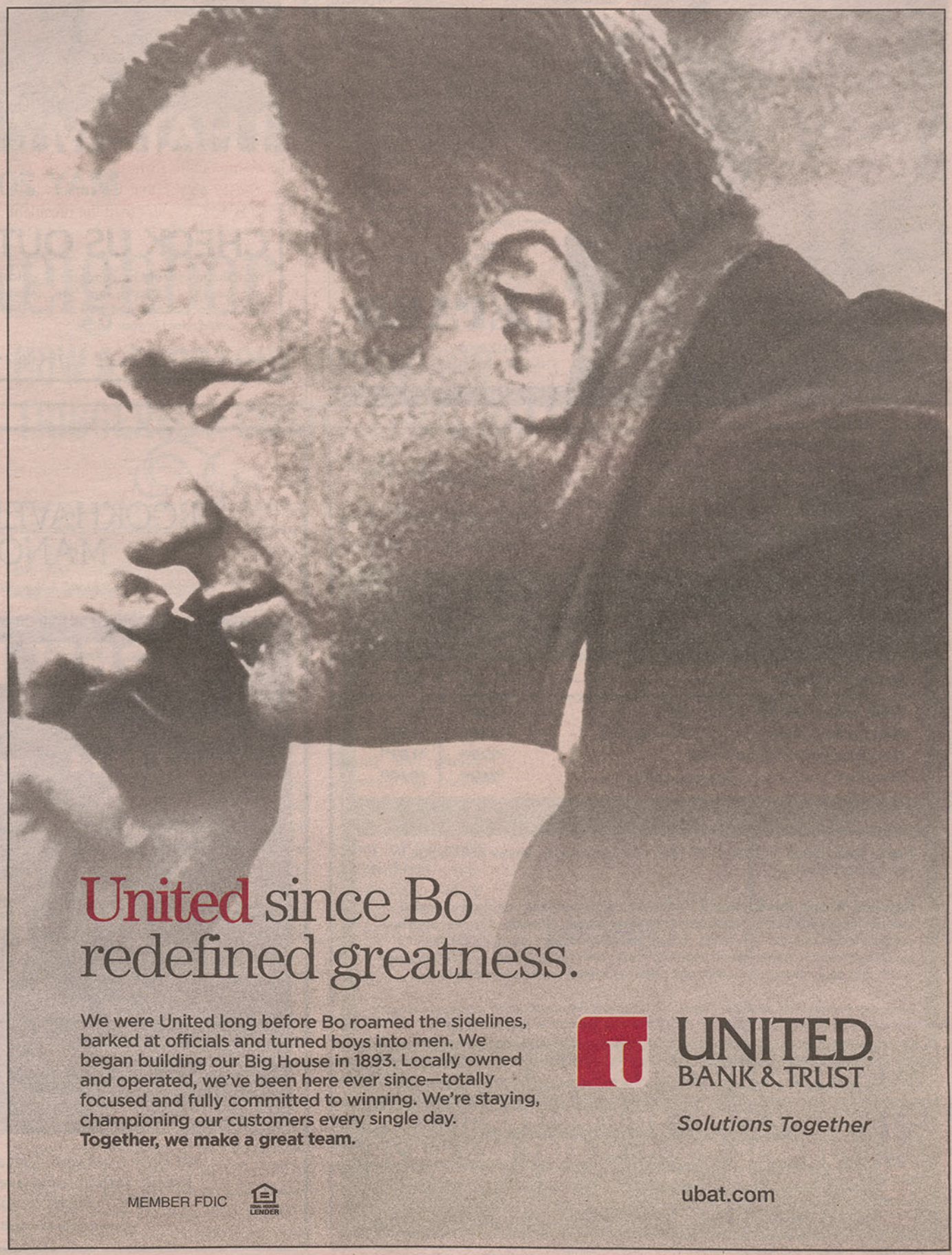

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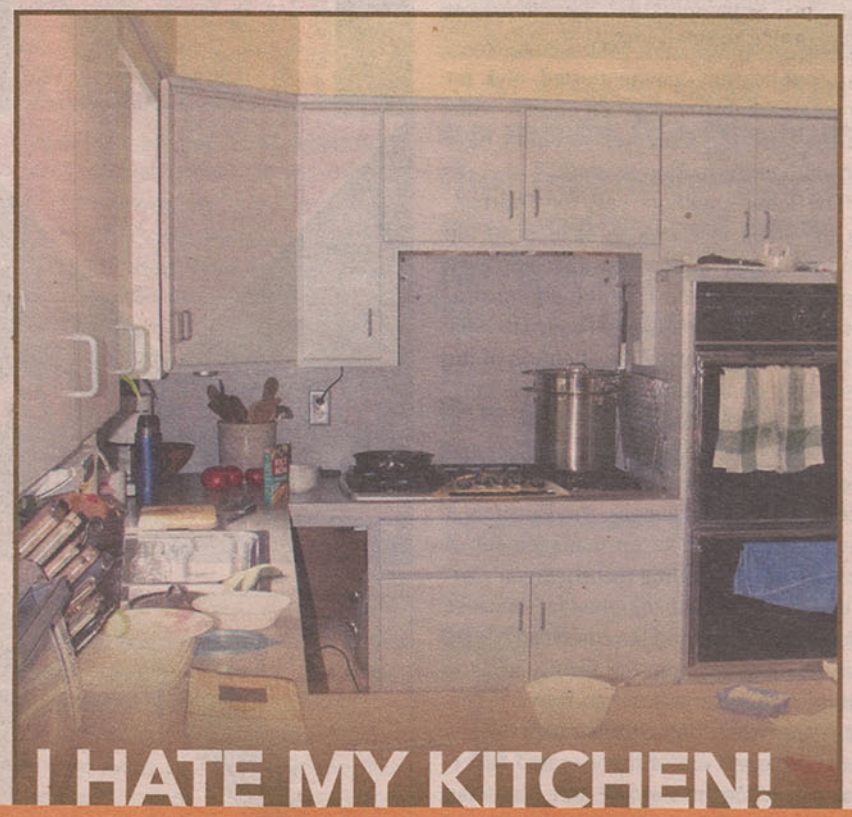

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Sue Thy Neighbor

by Julie Halpert

HOW A SHORTCUT TO THE ARB TRIGGERED A COSTLY LEGAL BATTLE

When Nick Delbanco and his wife moved from Vermont to Ann Arbor in 1985, they were drawn to a home near Nichols Arboretum. Just a block away, a short path led to the Arb's Main Valley. "I felt like a country boy," he recalls. "I felt like I'd managed to re-create the life of somebody who lived in woods and meadows while still being in the center of town. It was wonderful to have that path right there."

That experience meant so much to Delbanco, and several of his neighbors, that when access to the path was threatened, they fought back. Though the path crosses a private driveway and backyard, residents say they have used it for decades. So when relatively new owners of the two houses sandwiching the path decided to erect a fence, Delbanco and a group of his neighbors sued. The ensuing dispute has badly damaged the community spirit of a once tight-knit neighborhood.

The Highland neighborhood is a tranquil, affluent area of majestic, 1920s-era homes north of Geddes. Delbanco says there was "a warm sense of community, and that mattered a lot to me, particularly coming from Vermont, where nobody spoke to each other."

Barbara Hilbert, another plaintiff in the lawsuit, says the neighborhood book group counts fifty residents as members, with ten or fifteen attending meetings regularly. A block party is held every year, and was sometimes hosted on the driveway that leads to the path.

Many residents are illustrious leaders in their fields, but you'd never know it. Neighbors felt comfortable asking to borrow another's lawn mower or a spoonful of cinnamon. "It was great," says Raven McCrory, who lived in the neighborhood from 1983 to 2007 and often used the path. "It was a very neighborly place."

The path that split the community first appears in public records in 1893. According to pleadings filed by Scott Munzel, the plaintiffs' attorney, an easement was granted that year by Benjamin Conrad to Margaret Huddy, who owned land north of his, allowing her to use his property to gain access to Geddes. In 1923, when the land was platted for residential development, developer Andrew Franklin Smith retained the easement as an "outlot." In 1981, the owners of the houses on either side of the path acquired the outlot. When they sold their homes, they also sold their respective shares of the outlot.

Mark and Mia Moyad bought the house on the west side of the path in 2006. Mark Moyad later testified that he was unaware of the path at the time. In the fall of 2010, James and Elizabeth Sweetnam bought the house on the east side; they leveled it the next spring to build a new home. During the same period, the Moyads built a new garage, which required construction fencing. A January 20, 2011, email from Mia Moyad to the book group, included in court documents, said, "The Sweetnams and us have been legally advised to request no further use of the driveway as an entrance to the arb, particularly due to the dangers of the construction zone." (The Sweetnams and Moyads declined to be interviewed.)

In their court testimony and emails included in court records, the Moyads paint a very different picture of the quiet neighborhood others describe. Mark Moyad testified that he called the police six times due to disturbances associated with strangers' use of the path, including one time when their car was broken into. In a lengthy email to the book group, the Moyads complained that five to thirty people a day ran, biked, and skateboarded through their property at all hours; adult men hid in the bushes; carloads of kids parked in front of his house getting high or drunk, then took the footpath to the Arb; and Mia was approached by strangers in their driveway. In court documents, Mark Moyad said the incidents were so stressful that they considered moving.

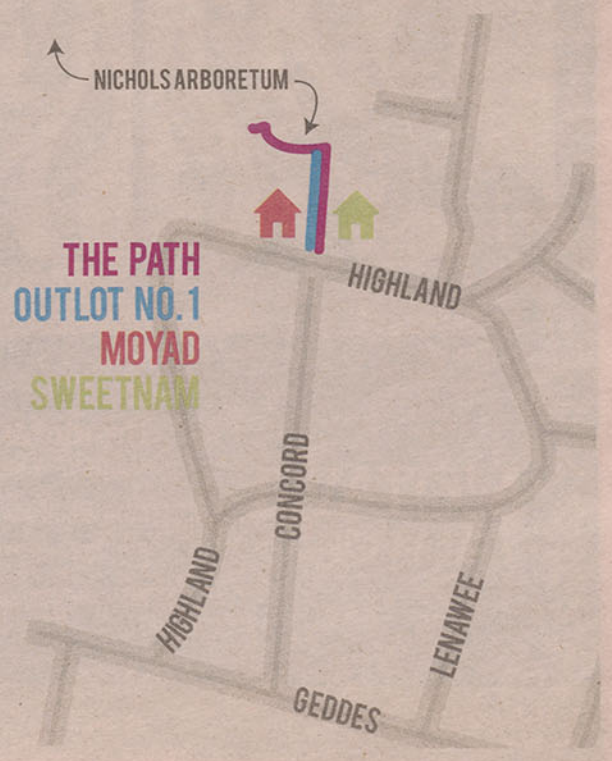
Hilbert is surprised by the litany of problems the Moyads cited. "We live across the street, and we never saw that," she says. Delbanco calls the email "crazy," saying he rarely, if ever, saw strangers using the path. Another plaintiff, Jane Hassinger says the "hostile, violent, and very distressing" email fueled the neighbors' desire to find a compromise that would preserve their access to the path while addressing their new neighbors' concerns.

In the spring of 2011, an attorney hired by the plaintiffs asked the Moyads if they'd consider putting in a gate with a lock, giving neighbors a key, as is done with a similar entrance on Harvard Place. The Moyads didn't agree. Susan Karp, a friend of the Moyads who testified on their behalf at the trial, isn't surprised. She says most people wouldn't appreciate having others—including future owners of the houses with keys granted "in perpetuity," as on Harvard—walking through their property.

By the summer of 2011, the Moyads joined with the Sweetnams—who still hadn't moved into the neighborhood—to erect a permanent fence that blocked access to the path.

If a new resident has yet to meet other neighbors, as in the case of the Sweetnams, they are more likely to want to maintain their privacy, notes Bill Berkowitz, a psychologist and professor emeritus at the University of Massachusetts–Lowell. But Zaire Dinzey-Flores, an associate professor of sociology at Rutgers University who lived in Ann Arbor from 1999 to 2003 as a grad student, says society's growing emphasis on private space "breaks down collaboration … In some ways, that space [the path] is another member of the community, so by taking that away, you're eroding that sense of community."

Hilbert says she had hoped litigation could be averted, but the Moyads "just



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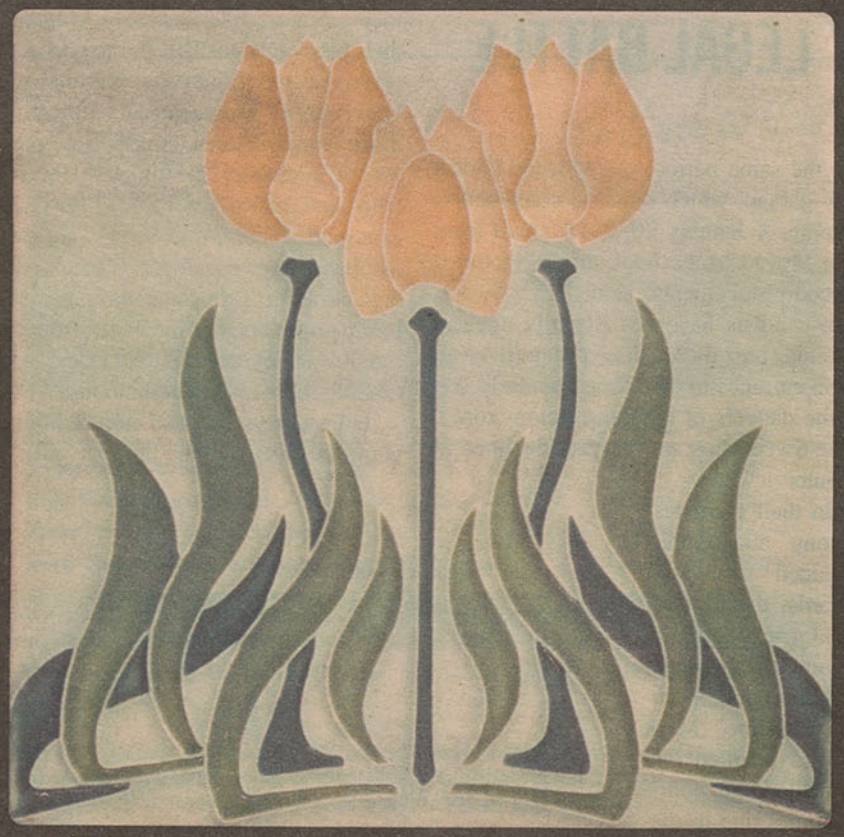

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Sue Thy Neighbor

never seemed to budge." Putting up a permanent fence in the midst of negotiations, she adds, "was antagonistic." Delbanco says he's "not the sort of person who slaps lawsuits on people," but he felt the fence redefined the traditionally "warm" neighborhood. So in the summer of 2012, he, Hilbert, and eight other neighbors sued the Moyads and Sweetnams to regain access to the path.

"We were just trying to retrieve what had been ours," Delbanco says.

The lawsuit rested on a legal concept called "adverse possession." Based on English common law, it allows parties that use private land continuously for at least fifteen years without the landowner's permission to claim ownership. The plaintiffs in the Highland case weren't asking for ownership of the outlot—but they did want a "prescriptive easement" that would let them keep using the path.

The two-day trial late last year hinged on the definition of continuous use and on whether the neighbors who used the path did so without permission. When Hilbert and her husband bought their house in 1993, she says, both the Realtor and seller told her she could use the path. They walked through the easily accessible entrance "and it was like, 'Oh joy!' " she recalls. Though there's a public entrance on Geddes a few blocks away, she says the footpath "is a totally different feeling because it's your entrance." Hilbert used it often, heading to the Arb just after sunrise with a notepad as she tried to learn about all the wildflowers there.

Hassinger grew up near the neighborhood and was aware of the many paths crossing private properties that abut the Arb. She used to babysit for a family on Highland "so I knew that path, and I knew it well." She started to use it regularly after she moved to Highland in 1992. "It was common knowledge that the walkway was available for anyone to use," says Eunice Burns, the Hassingers' Realtor at the time. Carolyn Lepard, a longtime Ann Arbor Realtor who lives in the area, says she gave buyers the same information: "It was historically considered to be a public walkway."

But the defendants argued that the neighbors' use didn't meet the conditions required for a prescriptive easement, since they hadn't used the path "continuously," and those who used it had permission to do so. In court pleadings, they said that both Barbara Hilbert and the Delbancos had been given permission by prior owners. Another neighbor, Brent Ericson, in an email to the Moyads that was part of court documents, said that when he moved in, a previous owner of the outlot told him about the path and gave him permission to use it. He also said that he didn't see plaintiffs using the path. Wendy Walker-Dyes, the Moyads' attorney, argued in court documents that the evidence "supports an inference that it was mutually understood by residents that any use of the Outlot was permissive."

Karp, the Moyads' friend, says good neighbors don't sue each other. "There was no reason they [the plaintiffs] needed to pursue this," she says. "It was a huge waste of time and money and created ill will." She says the plaintiffs "seemed like entitled bullies," when in her view, they should be grateful that they were able to use the path as long as they did: "They had a good run."

On March 13, judge David Swartz ruled in favor of the defendants. "The evidence did not satisfy the burden necessary to establish a prescriptive easement," the judge wrote.

In a statement provided by their attorney, the Sweetnams and Moyads said they were pleased with the court's "support of the fundamental rights of homeowners. We look forward to putting this whole matter behind us and to being part of the great neighborhood we live in."

William Miller, a U-M professor who teaches property law, says these kinds of cases were more commonly brought in rural areas a century ago, where there were wide-open spaces and uncertain land titles. Judges find it harder to apply these rules in fairly wealthy neighborhoods now. "My sense is the judge just did not want the law of prescription to work among people who ate dinner in each other's houses," he says. He says he doesn't necessarily think this ruling establishes a precedent for blocking off other paths. "If plaintiffs came in with more compelling proof, that would change the game. Nothing in this decision does away with the law of prescribing an easement."

Michael Krassa is a sociologist and chair of the Human Dimensions of Environmental Systems program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He says these types of lawsuits between neighbors have become more common as social ties weaken. "We don't know our neighbors as well as we used to," he says. Krassa teaches a class about the interaction of people, their neighbors, and the physical environment, including how neighborhood bonds form. He says that

In the summer of 2012, Nick Delbanco and nine other neighbors sued the Moyads and Sweetnams to regain access to the path. "We were just trying to retrieve what had been ours," Delbanco says.

during the ten-year period that he's taught the class, based on reports from his students, the number of people who know nothing about their neighbors has more than doubled.

Susan Karp says she stopped using the path on Highland once she heard the Moyads were concerned. As she walked her two dogs on a recent snowy weekend, she used another semi-private entrance to the Arb nearby—crossing the property of an elderly owner who, she says, doesn't mind neighbors passing through.

Jane Hassinger says she sometimes uses the entrance where Karp took her dogs but says the owner is not well and she "does not wish to cause him or his family any stress." Hassinger says there are many other similar entrances throughout the Arb, some with gates, some without, and she fears if they're blocked "it will close down the sense of openness and access and freedom in the neighborhood that was something we took for granted for a long time." She says it's doubtful that, given the ruling in this case, any neighbors would take measures to protest other access paths should they be blocked.

Delbanco, like Hassinger, fears other private entrances could be closed; he now uses the public Geddes entrance, which is far less convenient. He dismisses the defendants' hope to put the dispute behind them: "The idea that we'll all be happy campers now is wishful thinking at best," he says. "The circle of trust has been irrevocably broken, and a sense of shared community cannot be restored." But with the plaintiffs' legal bills approaching $100,000, he has no plans to appeal. "I'm heartily sick of it," he says.

It's hard to know whether the dispute will leave long-lasting scars. Hilbert felt awkward meeting the Sweetnams for the first time at a deposition. "It was like 'sorry to meet you under these circumstances. We're your neighbors.'" Karp says the Sweetnams can't help but feel unwelcome. "I'm sure they were very sorry they came to Ann Arbor," she says. Hassinger agrees: "They don't feel like we're a friendly community, and I feel terrible about that." Hassinger says there's bound to be psychological fallout—the once open and friendly community, she says, now feels "closed off and antagonistic."

Hilbert, though, isn't giving up: "I really hope we can come back together again," she says. She points out that the book group still meets, and the block parties are still held. After the court hearing, she hugged a neighbor who testified against her and the other plaintiffs. "I said, 'This doesn't change anything for us.'"

Though he lost, Delbanco doesn't regret bringing the lawsuit—even though he realizes it will likely have long-lasting emotional consequences. "It's true that things have soured. There was a time when everybody was awfully happy to be each other's neighbors," he says.

The conflict, he says, proves that good fences don't always make good neighbors: "In this case, good fences make bad neighbors." ■

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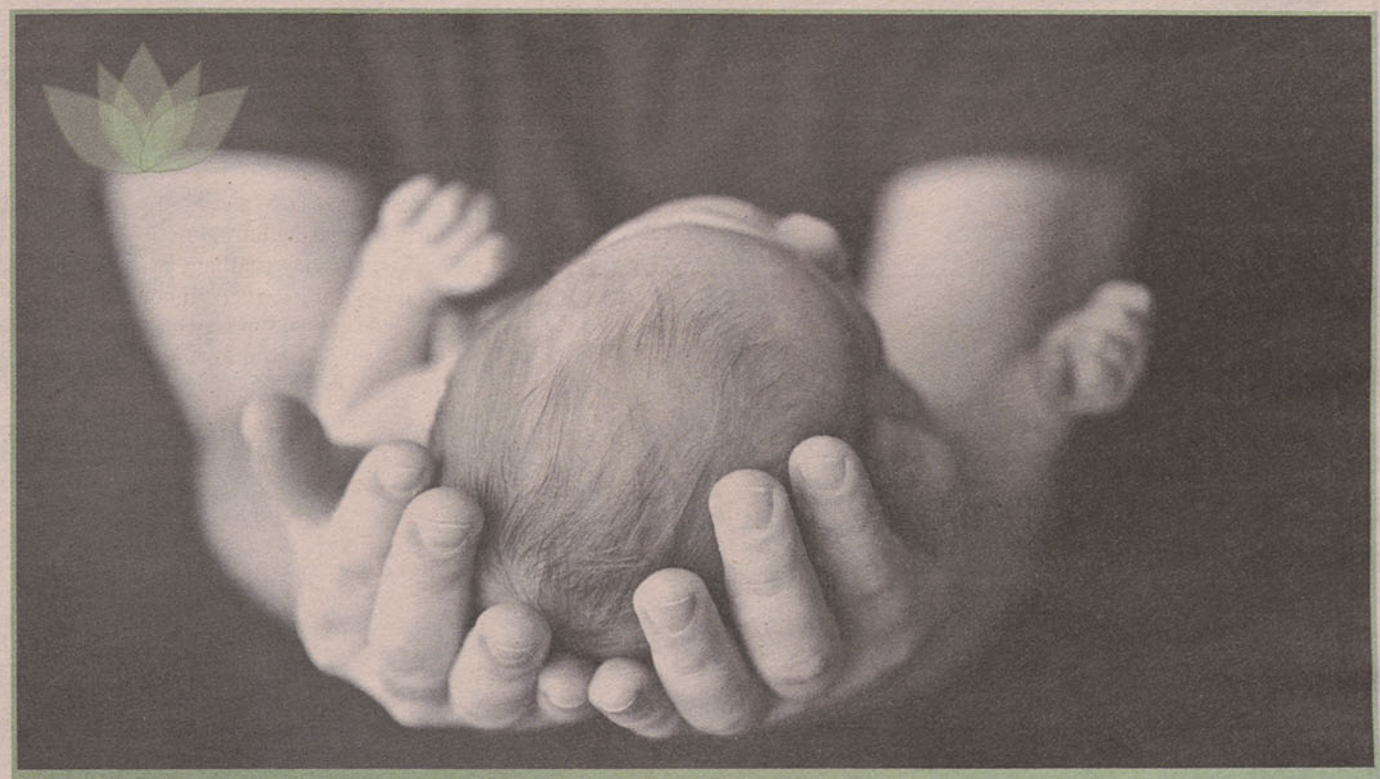

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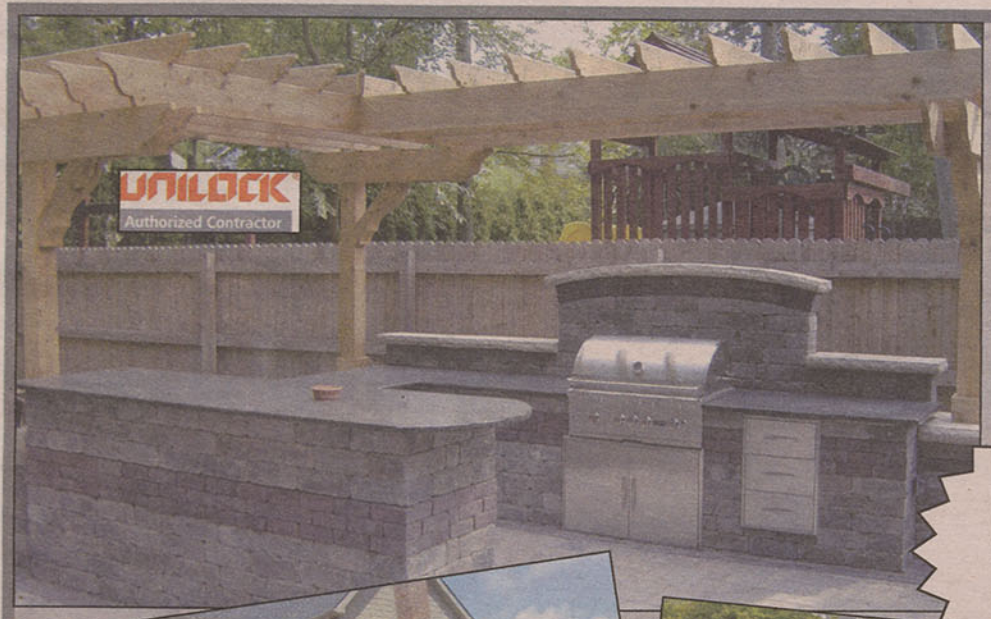

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The Honesty Policy

When U-M doctors started admitting their mistakes, experts feared they would end up with even more malpractice lawsuits. The Michigan Model still has critics—but it's been so successful it's about to go national.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

by David Alexander

Rick Boothman, the chief risk officer at UMHS, developed the Michigan Model after concluding the old "deny and defend" approach eroded the faith of doctors, patients, and hospital administrators in one another.

It begins with a mistake. A doctor botches an operation, misses something on an MRI, or fails to make a diagnosis. Medical lawsuits are nothing new. Doctors are human. They make mistakes, and injured patients expect to be compensated. But since 2001, the University of Michigan Health System has been taking a radically different approach to these inevitable problems: admitting its mistakes.

The goal of the "Michigan Model" is to limit errors by acknowledging and learning from them. Apologizing to patients and offering follow-up care and sometimes financial compensation also makes them less likely to sue. On the other hand, if a UMHS investigation concludes the medical staff did all that they could, the system will stand behind its employees.

That response, which medical researchers call "communication and resolution," might seem obvious. But until recently the trend in the medical world was very different. The typical response to malpractice lawsuits was to deny that anything was done wrong and prepare a legal defense. Yet even if administrators believed their staff was blameless, they might pay a settlement if it was cheaper than going to court.

Tacked on the wall of Rick Boothman's office is a quote from George Orwell: "In a time of universal deceit—telling the truth is a revolutionary act." The UMHS's chief risk officer developed the Michigan Model after concluding that the old "deny and defend" approach eroded the faith of doctors, patients, and hospital administrators in one another.

Doctors, Boothman says, often feel very guilty when a patient is harmed, even if they weren't negligent. "Everything caregivers do is inherently risky. You can't control that risk … when things go wrong, they feel betrayed," he says. "Medicine made a Faustian bargain."

When hospitals barricaded themselves behind lawyers, they also weakened one of their best defenses against lawsuits: the trust between doctor and patient. In 1997, University of Toronto physician Wendy Levinson conducted a study showing that patients sue more out of a sense of neglect than a conviction their doctor was negligent. And patients are more reluctant to sue doctors they like—even if the doctor admits to making a mistake.

Boothman says the main motive in developing the Michigan Model was to do what's right, not to limit lawsuits. But malpractice litigation has plummeted since it was introduced.

Boothman says the main motive in developing the Michigan Model was to do what's right, not to limit lawsuits. But malpractice litigation has plummeted since it was introduced. According to statistics provided by U-M, the rate of lawsuits has fallen from 2.13 per 100,000 patients to roughly 0.75 per 100,000 patients. The median time to reach a resolution has dropped from 1.36 to 0.95 years.

"We refuse to settle out of expediency. We have never had a case fall on us because we were honest," Boothman says. "Once you admit you own it, you can improve it. You can't fix anything if you don't think you have a problem."

Ann Arbor attorney Peter Davis has been handling malpractice lawsuits since 1966. He says he has seen many cases over the years where doctors altered records in an attempt to cover up errors. The Michigan Model, he says, gives doctors an incentive to be honest.

"We all fear being on the wrong end of a malpractice suit," says Daniel Hayes, medical director of the breast oncology program at U-M's Comprehensive Cancer Center. "At most centers, this becomes confrontational." At other hospitals, he'd seen many colleagues get hung out to dry by administrators, so when he began working at the U-M roughly twelve years ago, it took him only about ten minutes to get on board with its policy of admitting mistakes.

Conventional wisdom teaches doctors that they should never make mistakes, and if they do, to deny them or risk destroying their careers. The Michigan Model, Hayes says, makes them more comfortable admitting when they could have provided better care. "If doctors recognize that when they make mistakes they are not going to get hammered, they are going to be allowed to do the right thing."

Most patients, Hayes says, aren't looking for a big payday; they simply want an acknowledgement of wrongdoing and modest compensation to cover their medical expenses. The health system saves money by paying reasonable compensation directly and eliminating the middlemen.

Norm Tucker is one of those middlemen—he's a malpractice attorney with forty-two years' experience. Like Davis, he credits the Michigan Model for encouraging honesty.

"The minute one side is trying to polish their story, so to speak, the whole thing doesn't work," Tucker says. "It's not just about avoiding lawsuits; it's about correcting a problem. It's not just about the money; they don't want it to happen again." Most of his clients, Tucker says, would return to the U-M hospital after settling their cases.

Boothman gives several examples of how U-M's program has led to changes in hospital policy. For instance, two patients with pre-existing sleep apnea experienced difficulties while on narcotic painkillers, which inhibit respiration. The administration then opted to install pulse oximeters throughout the hospital to catch problems sooner. The hospital also improved the way surgeons pass instruments in the OR, changed the way it cleans bronchoscopes, and addressed a disparity in the way ER docs and cardiologists were interpreting EKGs.

"Health care is not like building a Toyota," Boothman says. "If you whack a mole here, you can cause unin-

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The Honesty Policy

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"We all fear being on the wrong end of a malpractice suit," says Daniel Hayes, medical director of the U-M's breast oncology program. After seeing colleagues get hung out to dry by administrators at other hospitals, it only took him about ten minutes to get on board with the policy of admitting mistakes.

tended consequences somewhere else. So, everything is so interconnected that if you don't do it publicly and you don't do it in a collaborative and integrated way, you don't make a lasting fix."

On a gray afternoon inside Ruby Tuesday, Vickie Patterson grabs a tortilla chip, dips it into a spinach-artichoke dip, and shovels it into her mouth. After a few seconds, her face twists into a grimace.

"I don't feel hot until it touches the side of my teeth," she says.

Patterson doesn't believe the Michigan Model has patients' best interests at heart. During a 2002 jaw surgery to correct an overbite, her surgeon accidentally bored a screw into her eye socket, leaving her with substantial nerve and hard palate damage.

What followed over the next couple of years would change Patterson's view of the U-M's hospital. Patterson says that members of Boothman's staff refused to allow her to speak with the dean of dentistry and verbally abused her over the phone. When the hospital contacted her in writing, she said it did so as a wolf in sheep's clothing.

"They never identified themselves as lawyers," she says. "This has got to stop. They need to inform patients that they are lawyers … I was never told I needed an attorney."

Boothman says that some of the people who make the initial contact are lawyers, but many are not. "We tell people, 'You are entitled to a lawyer, and we will not treat you any differently.' " Whoever makes the contact, he says first priority is to inquire what the hospital can do to ease the patient's trauma.

"Somebody has a bad outcome, a bad result, something bad happens to them, we want to engage those people immediately but along a certain descending algorithm," Boothman says. "So, the very first concern isn't [legal] claims. The very first concern is how do we grease the skids so that patients' care, whatever new care needs they have, can be improved—we can cut through the red tape and get them the very best care they need right now."

Another critic, retired U-M pathologist Douglas Smith, believes the real purpose of the Michigan Model is to reduce the cost of lawsuits. If the hospital resolves a problem early, he points out, it does not have to report it as a malpractice suit to the National Practitioner Data Bank, which influences hospitals' rankings and accreditation.

Smith cites an example in an area on which he focused: graft-versus-host disease—a complication of organ transplants where healthy tissue rejects donor tissue. A transplant patient died of what at first appeared to be a colon infection but also showed signs of graft-versus host-disease. Smith says Boothman denied his request for a DNA test to check for the condition, citing a Michigan law that stipulates that a hospital cannot be sued for wrongful death if there is a greater than 50 percent chance the patient would have died regardless of treatment. Research showed a patient with graft-versus-host disease had only about a 15 percent chance of survival.

Smith knew that statistic well—he contributed to the research that developed it. However, he said Boothman failed to give credence to new methodology that put a patient's survival rate closer to 75 percent. He says he told Boothman that if the hospital was going to increase its number of transplants it should examine how to catch graft-versus-host disease earlier. The suggestion was ignored, he says.

"They are not thinking of this program: how do we fix these problems so we prevent malpractice? They just don't want to get sued for malpractice," Smith says.

Boothman responds that interpreting the test Smith wanted would have required before-and-after data for both the donor and recipient, which didn't exist. Even if it had, he says, making sense of the results is tricky. And he is vehement that the hospital's investigation was exhaustive. Looking back, he says, it appears that the patient had graft-versus-host *and* a negative reaction to antibiotics. "There was not a way in the world this patient was going to survive this," he says.

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The Honesty Policy

Boothman says that there's a positive correlation between fostering good relations between caregivers and patients and the quality of patient care. He says many hospitals, including the U-M, refer to the National Practitioner Data Bank only for a few situations, and even then rarely. Chalking up Smith's criticism to a disgruntled former employee, he says the case he describes did not lead to any changes in the U-M's procedures for identifying graft-versus-host disease. Perhaps the transplant team and other health care providers could have communicated better, he says, but the issue of how to handle graft-versus-host was not a problem on a fundamental level.

Risk officers sent Claudia Megaro a plethora of emails and letters expressing concern, but she didn't feel they were sincere. It's as if the hospital expected her to be grateful, she says, simply for using the words "sorry" and "apology" frequently.

Claudia Megaro, a registered nurse now living in New Jersey, underwent surgery at U-M in 2006. While she did not pursue damages, her story, she says, also illustrates problems in the Michigan Model. Following an infection, a surgeon grafted a piece of bone from one of her legs to her jaw. Shortly afterward, Megaro began having intense swelling in her face. Though blood and pus were seeping from her drainage tube, nurses never contacted her surgeon. Instead, Megaro was discharged.

To make matters worse, after an ordeal that spanned roughly three years and five surgeries, Megaro says she discovered another error. During her third surgery, to remove some hardware that had worked its way loose, the surgeon noted that he could find only nine of the sixteen screws that earlier records showed had been installed but dismissed the disparity to a clerical mistake. It was only after her dentist noticed several bright spots on an X-ray that Megaro learned hardware was still embedded in her face.

Megaro says she did not pursue damages because all she ever wanted was an acknowledgment of wrongdoing. As someone with a medical background, she didn't want to contribute to a culture of litigation she believes is responsible for the defensive behavior that made U-M reluctant to admit its mistake in the first place.

Once hospital officials turned her case over to risk management, Megaro says the communication turned sour. Risk officers

sent Megaro a plethora of emails and letters expressing concern, but she didn't feel they were sincere. It's as if the hospital expected her to be grateful, she says, simply for using the words "sorry" and "apology" frequently.

"It's obvious now that [Boothman] is trying to cover it up," Megaro said. "They think they can browbeat people … they try to intimidate you. It's a bullying thing … If it's being done to me, how many other people is it being done to?"

A 2011 article in the *Chapman Law Review* contends that patients are better off going to court. Apology programs, the author writes, "allow for the manipulation of injured patients as a means to persuade them not to pursue money damages … not only is a person less likely to pursue litigation following a doctor's apology, but even if a patient does still pursue money damages, the patient is more likely to adopt a more pliant negotiating position." The article cites U-M's own research that found 71 percent of patients who participated in the apology program accepted settlements worth less than what they would have sought in court.

A book titled *Family Centered Patient Advocacy: Understanding Patient Safety* sits on Boothman's desk. Despite his best efforts to make the Michigan Model seamless, he concedes that it is far from perfect. For instance, the system lacks a mechanism to determine the number of patients harmed by hospital-acquired infections, which cause far more injuries and deaths than medical errors. Still, U-M hospital staff closely monitor any potential outbreaks, visiting rooms and swabbing furniture, including the curtains between beds, and keeping an eye on air quality. But he acknowledges that the easiest and most cost-effective way to control infections—more frequent hand-washing—is still not being done often enough.

It's also hard to get a handle on how many mistakes are being made, because the system relies heavily on self-reporting. According to medical literature, only between 8 and 11 percent of medical mistakes nationally find their way to an incident report. At U-M, the number of incidents reported skyrocketed from 2,400 in 2006 to more than 23,000 in 2013.

While Boothman cautions that the numbers are "squishy," he believes they show that caregivers are becoming more willing to report problems. "We are clearly making progress, because we are not seeing repeat mistakes, and we are seeing improvements," he says. And he says the Michigan Model has led to more decisive action when dangerous caregivers are identified.

"All I know is there are multiple strategies. It's a push-and-pull kind of thing," Boothman says. "It's a changing landscape all the time."

Another issue that is hard to address, Boothman says, is what constitutes medical malpractice. He offers as an example a heart surgery performed on a 420-pound man during which surgeons lacerated his vena cava.

"Is it a medical error, or are you just pushing the limits of what a human being can do?" he asks, a poster of Lou Gehrig with the caption "The Luckiest Man on the Face of the Earth" hanging behind him. "If you are supposed to get antibiotics every four hours, and a dose comes every four hours and fifteen minutes, is that a medical error? …

"You can do everything right and still have a problem," he points out. That said, "We don't want to defend care we shouldn't be defending," he says. For example, as surgeons age, some see their technical skills decline. Since they still have value as teachers, he says, the U-M may shift their roles to reduce the risk of mistakes.

Until recently, it was an open question whether the Michigan Model could work outside U-M. In January, the medical journal *Health Affairs* published a pair of studies that examined communication and resolution programs around the country, including a group of five New York City hospitals directly "inspired" by Michigan's example. Lead author Michelle Mello, professor of law and public health at Harvard, had previously co-authored a 2007 article that argued that full disclosure ran the risk of increasing rather than decreasing litigation.

Mello says she has "become more of a believer in the model over time." While the studies did not have the long view U-M has after twelve years, the results were positive overall. The hospitals didn't copy the Michigan Model exactly, instead tailoring the idea to their comfort level. Some adopted a more passive approach, simply asking patients what they expected of the hospital and shying away from talks regarding concrete figures of compensation. All faced challenges similar to Michigan's, including mitigating patients' financial expectations and convincing doctors to go against a hardwired instinct not to admit mistakes.

While Mello believes the Michigan Model can work elsewhere, she also credits a "Boothman factor" behind its success here. Not all risk officers will be as adept at anticipating snags and selling physicians and administrators on the value of full disclosure, she says. "I don't think there is anything distinctive about U-M's setting that gives them a monopoly" on communication and resolution programs, Mello says. "It's an approach that can work in many other settings, but whether they will be able to marshal the other issues is another story."

That question may soon be answered: as part of an initiative announced by President Obama in 2009, the federal Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality is promoting a variety of efforts to reduce medical liability costs, including grants for communication and resolution programs around the country. And Mello's article in *Health Affairs* noted an encouraging pattern among the hospitals that have followed Michigan's lead in adopting communication and resolution programs: all encouraged other hospitals to give them a try. ■

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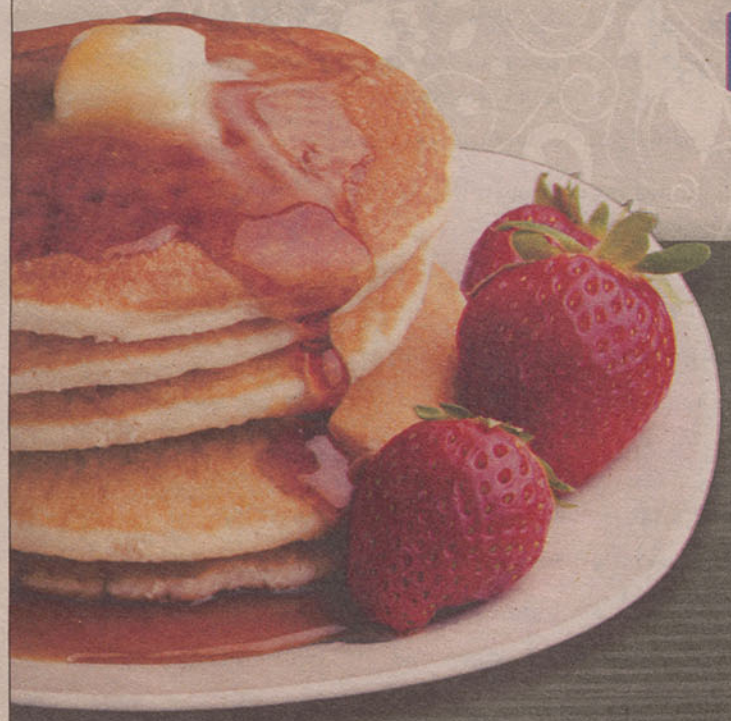

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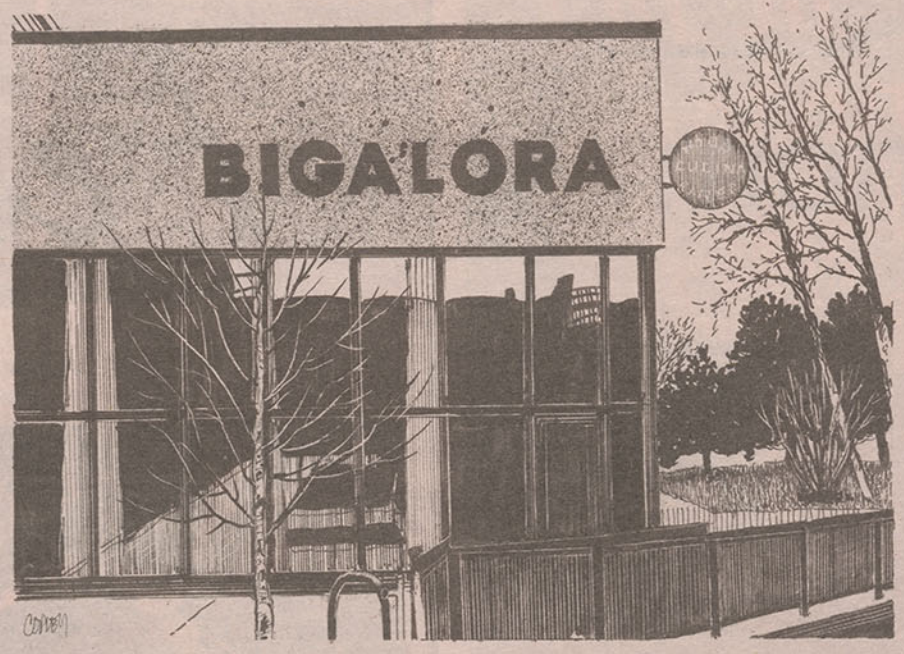

Bigalora, the third link in a small chain of restaurants begun by Luciano DelSignore in Southfield, opened last autumn in the new Arbor Hills Crossing shopping center. Its location, in the back of the complex, offers a forested retreat in the midst of Washtenaw Avenue's strip-mall jungle. A long wall of windows overlooks a secluded patio and a shallow, tree-lined ravine cradling Malletts Creek. I can't imagine that patio will ever be empty during summer months.

A bar and open kitchen sit opposite those windows, with a mix of tables for small parties and communal seating between. Tucked beneath the high ceiling at back, a mezzanine offers a bit of seclusion. The ambience is chic, sleek, contemporary. (I love the clear acrylic wingback chairs near the entrance.) At lunch and dinner, music plays loudly, and repeated queries—"what?!?"—punctuate most conversations.

Bigalora's specialties—pizza, pasta, and small plates—aren't new to Ann Arbor. So how does DelSignore differentiate his food from the competition's? The waitstaff eagerly describes the pizza crust, made with a proprietary fermented, non-yeast starter, or biga. "Ninety seconds at 900 degrees" goes the mantra, and the pizzas slide in and out of the wood-burning ovens in a flash. DelSignore also roasts vegetables, chicken wings, meat, fish, and even peanuts and olives in his "wood-fired cucina." Salads, pastas, cheese and salumi, and a few fried items round out the offerings.

With a menu so long, I couldn't sample everything, even with help from my friends and family. But we made a brave start, particularly with the small plates. I've never understood the pairing of calamari with marinara sauce, so we skipped it in favor of the risotto balls—delicious cheesy, creamy saffron-tinged interiors with crunchy exteriors—and potato croquettes—another crunchy crust enveloping a bland patty. Fried shishito peppers had a nice vegetal flavor, but the french fries, allegedly made Tuscan with sprinklings of garlic, rosemary, and grana padano cheese, seemed to have been dusted clean on their way out of the kitchen. Meatballs, their texture lightened by breadcrumbs, also seemed light on flavor, and the acidic marinara sauce didn't add much of a boost. Those roasted olives and peanuts were both fine, as were the wood-fired carrots, garnished with more peanuts, goat cheese, and a drizzle of balsamic vinegar.

Another evening we began with salads, which thoughtfully come in small and large sizes. Roasted beets on arugula sparked our appetites with bits of olive pesto, walnuts, and goat cheese. A wholesome medley of lentils, quinoa, farro, chickpeas, and vegetables was wonderfully cooked and presented but tasted as if it had come to the table undressed. Requests for lemon wedges and olive oil brought the necessary additions.

We tried Bigalora's pizzas on three different visits. The choices are red (with tomato sauce) or white (without sauce). Whatever the type, the crust was always flavorful, lightly tangy. Though an abundant garnish of arugula and pomegranate salad overwhelmed a special pie with shredded duck confit, the toppings also were generally good, particularly a version with zesty sausage, hot peppers, and roasted onions. But on our first two tries, the brief moment in the blazing-hot oven never seemed to cook the pizza crusts through, and their centers remained limp, even soggy. We couldn't pick up a triangle without the toppings sliding onto the table.

But one evening, with Joan Jett blasting in the background—"I love rock and roll, put another dime in the jukebox, baby"—we opted to drop another coin, and this time the pizza sang. The crusts on our three pizzas were crispy on the bottom, chewy at their hearts and along their edges. Toppings varied from brussels sprouts (tasty), shrimp with arugula pesto (also tasty despite undercooked crustaceans), and clams (in their shell, a bit of a surprise to our friend when he bit down, but that may have been due to excellent cocktails). I've no idea what was different that night—the cook, the oven's temperature, the batch of dough—but I can't help thinking that a bit more time in a cooler oven would do well by Bigalora's pizzas.

Bigalora offers the same menu at lunch, but at midday your pizza or pasta comes with a small salad or bowl of soup along with a soft drink—more food, same cost, a real bargain. I took my mother to lunch one day, and she enthusiastically enjoyed her garden salad and duck prosciutto pizza (meat cured in house)—with enough left for the next day's lunch too. I opted for hearty minestrone and wonderfully rich fontina-stuffed gnocchi. Normally the gnocchi comes with marinara sauce, but other options are available. When I asked about one, the waitress didn't know what it was. Palomino sauce, I discovered once she served it, is essentially a tomato cream sauce. She didn't know many answers to our questions, nor did our waiter the first evening we visited. Beyond that time-and-temperature mantra, Bigalora's staff seems remarkably untutored, though usually friendly.

We finished our lunch with a hefty portion of a mediocre tiramisu. Other sweets I tried, including a chocolate-and-nut parfait and *frittelle*—fried dough with fudge sauce and strawberry compote—were equally enormous but more appealing.

Bigalora's concept, of course, is quite similar to Mani Osteria's. While Mani's menu intrigues, with food that excites the mind and tongue and with deft, careful cooking, Bigalora plays it safer. Bunting instead of swinging for the bleachers, it scores far fewer hits. Though Bigalora's prices are lower and their portions more generous, in terms of interest and execution I find myself rooting for the home team.

That doesn't mean, though, that once the summer sun comes out, I won't be vying for one of Bigalora's patio tables. Almost no place will beat a Negroni, a sausage pizza, and some roasted vegetables in the shade of that forested retreat.

—Lee Lawrence

Bigalora
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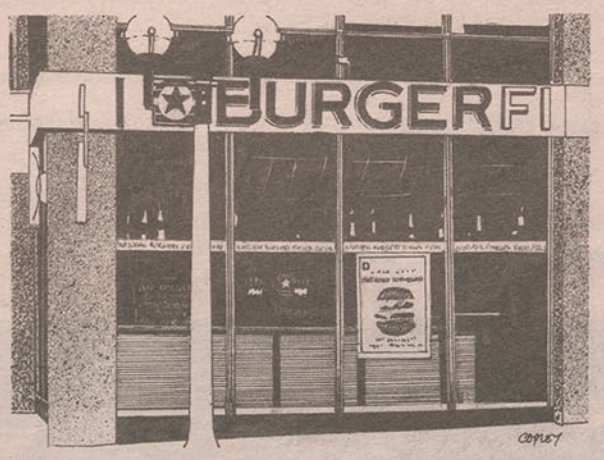

BurgerFi, on the storied corner of South Forest and South University, is the newest entry in Ann Arbor's growing segment of upscale burger joints using ingredients that have at least some story behind them, if not a full-fledged pedigree. Before we even placed our order, the man behind the walk-up counter assured us we'd love their "all-natural, no-antibiotic, hormone-free Angus" burgers.

The eponymous BurgerFi was OK, but not a revelation, especially after its bun smushed down completely, Wonder bread style. The VegFi burger actually seemed more notable. Oozing with cheese amid its deep-fried-to-a-crisp quinoa bulk, it's the kind of meal that makes you want to call up veggie friends and tell them to check it out, because it won't leave them hungry. The onion rings were gigantic, with perfectly al dente onions under a generous amount of breading, and like the fries were browned to a pleasing crisp but not beyond.

Like the appealing new Elevation Burger over on Washtenaw, BurgerFi boasts ecologically virtuous furnishings and made-to-order shakes with recognizable dairy ingredients; it also has a similar space-age multi-beverage push-button soda dashboard to tech things up. Even better, and somewhat reminiscent of R.U.B. BBQ over at another storied corner at Packard and State, BurgerFi has Michigan games on the big screens, beer on tap, and a few down-home menu picks, like a burger of ground dry-aged brisket and Texas-style chili to top your cheese dog.

Best of both worlds then? Not quite. On my second visit, we waited more than ten minutes for an incorrect order and undercooked fries. Though the dining area was less than half full, most of the empty tables hadn't been wiped clean, either. But there were pleasant surprises, too, including a tasty "Wagyu beef" hot dog and a coffee milkshake that was just right-sized, thick but not too thick, and generously full of coffee flavor.

Ordering a BurgerFi "frozen concrete" custard with candy/cookie/fruit/nut mix-ins was another exercise in indulgence (reflecting the chain's roots in southern Florida, you can even get a Key Lime pie version). It's hard not to worry about Americans—on college campuses and anywhere else—who are eating like this all the time. But occasionally, as a treat, it can hit the spot just right.

World of Beer, diagonally across the street from BurgerFi, is also a franchise that originated in Florida, and it also serves beer. It does not, however, have a kitchen or food menu (the bartender says they usually have popcorn available, but the machine was broken on the day of our visit). Instead, they have a few area partner restaurants that will deliver food to you at your seat or stool (including Pizza House and Sadako, but not BurgerFi).

What World of Beer does have is an astounding variety of beer—we're talking 500 or so different kinds—at quite a range of prices. Sixty different bottled beers from Michigan alone accounted for just one of the lit glass-doored refrigerators lining the walls. I chose a rotating tap $3 special pint of Heavy Seas Black Cannon black ale from Maryland, mostly because of its name. Turns out I liked it better than my companion's similarly dark but too cloyingly chocolate pint at more than twice the price. Craft cocktails—including cosmos and margaritas with beer mixed in—cost even more.

Also in abundance is trivia—to play on many Sunday nights and to read anytime in the menu. Did you know Columbus discovered Native Americans making beer from corn and birch syrup in 1492? And that only eight of the 171 Trappist monasteries in the world brew beer—and you can compare a few of them at World of Beer? Come on a warm day when they raise the sliding door, and you can experience it all from sidewalk seating out front in the shade of the Landmark luxury student housing tower. Like BurgerFi across the street, it's something new—a little, Southern-born bit of Ann Arbor.

—M.B. Lewis

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11/19: Jake Shimabukuro, ukulele in Hill Auditorium

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SIX CHARACTERS IN SEARCH OF AN AUTHOR
Theater, SERIES:YOU

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RYOJI IKEDA'S *SUPERPOSITION*
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11/1
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11/9
QUATUOR ÉBÈNE
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MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS, MUSIC DIRECTOR
Choral Union, SERIES:YOU

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BOB JAMES
Jazz, SERIES:YOU

11/19
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Global, SERIES:YOU

11/23
YUJA WANG, PIANO AND LEONIDAS KAVAKOS, VIOLIN
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12/6-7
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HELEN & EDGAR
Theater, SERIES:YOU

1/17
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VALERY GERGIEV,
MUSIC DIRECTOR
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2/5
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Jazz, SERIES:YOU

2/6
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2/14
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2/14-21
COMPAGNIE NON NOVA: *PRELUDE TO THE AFTERNOON OF A FAUN*
Theater, Renegade, SERIES:YOU

2/15
JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA
WITH WYNTON MARSALIS
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2/19
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3/25
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4/4
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4/9
MAX RAABE AND
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4/16
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AND CHICK COREA
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4/17
OLIVER MTUKUDZI AND
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Global, SERIES:YOU

4/19
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4/23
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Marketplace Changes

by Sally Mitani

Location, Location

Knight's moves inward, Seva moves outward.

Two of Ann Arbor's most iconic restaurants, both long linked to their locations, have moved in opposite directions.

On April 9, the official opening day, the new **Knight's** in the old Borders near campus was full of familiar well-wishers from its Dexter Ave. location intermingling with campus-area walk-ins waiting for tables. But a swing by Knight's Steakhouse, as the original location is known, at dinnertime on that same day showed a full parking lot and a wait list for tables there too.

The Knight family already has a second location in Jackson, and they'd been scouting sites for another Ann Arbor restaurant for a while. At one point they considered the former Herc's Beef & Spirits on Washtenaw, but if opening day is any indicator, coming downtown was the right choice.

Dan and Susie Sutter are the husband-and-wife team deputized to run the campus location. They moved back to Ann Arbor after years working at Chicago's high-energy restaurants on Rush Street. Design firm Momus came up with the light-filled, white-walled seating areas dominated by a massive dark-wood bar at the center, which both does and doesn't look like Knight's Steakhouse.

The menu, too, is Knight's and not Knight's: "We've added some apps, like calamari and popcorn shrimp," Dan Sutter says. "Cowboy steak [a gargantuan rib cut] will be on the menu permanently. It sometimes shows up as a special at the Steakhouse." Mainly, the menu is shorter: the cream of the crop.

Dan wore coat and tie on opening night, and Susie was all in black with four-inch stilettos, but Don Knight, who runs the restaurant side of the family business, was reassuringly approachable, in green shirt and khakis. Dan emphasized that the restaurant has no particular demographic in mind. The Knights don't play profiling games. They have always made a point of welcoming all. "A student can get a burger and a Coke and get out of here for $12," while that cowboy steak will set you back about $30.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

Don Knight (second from left, with nephew Don Knight, left) runs the restaurant side of the family business. He's deputized Susie and Dan Sutton to manage the new, downtown Knight's. While the gargantuan "cowboy steak" is $30, Dan says, "a student can get a burger and a Coke and get out of here for $12."

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

While Knight's was branching inward from the west side, Seva owners Maren and Jeff Jackson were moving out, to Westgate. Though the move was triggered by a rent increase, Jeff says it all worked out: their old space "needed remodeling, and I couldn't close for six months. I'd lose all my staff!"

Knight's is not the only restaurant that saw room for another steakhouse downtown: **Ruth's Chris** recently unveiled its plans to set up shop on Fourth Ave. That doesn't bother the Knights at all, says Dan Sutter: "There are other nice restaurants in the area too. Ruth's Chris will be several blocks away. Our steaks are just as good, not as expensive, and this is a local business."

Knight's, 600 E. Liberty, 245–9265. Daily 11 a.m.–11 p.m. knightsrestaurants.com.

❧ ❧ ❧

As Knight's was expanding into downtown, **Seva** was moving out. Since the 1970s, the vegetarian restaurant has been king of the 300 block of East Liberty, a neighborhood once dominated by beads, guitars, gauzy cotton, and whole wheat. There's still some of that counter-culture flavor left in the area, but Seva's earliest patrons are now getting to the age where they might choose easy parking over one-stop shopping for guitar strings and

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Marketplace Changes

butternut-squash enchiladas.

Seva didn't move expressly to accommodate an aging clientele, but owner Jeff Jackson says the parking is the most frequent compliment he gets about Seva's move to Westgate. The decision to relocate started when the landlord, the VFW, raised the rent, but that's water long under the bridge: "It needed remodeling, and I couldn't close for six months. I'd lose all my staff!"

That couldn't happen. A lot of the staff predates him, like pastry chef Aikia Lahti and one of the head cooks, Lupe Miranda, who now have a ten-month-old child together. Lahti says their romance bloomed a few years ago, "after standing beside each other fifteen years in the kitchen—both of us in and out of other relationships. A few years ago, he said to me, 'When you're done with this idiot you're dating, I'm going to ask you out.'" Lahti and Miranda aren't the only staffers who've made a career of Seva: they're just two with a particularly heartwarming story.

Jeff and Maren Jackson bought Seva in 1997, Maren having worked her way up from server to head of the kitchen under former owner Steve Bellock. The Jacksons themselves aren't easing into a life of easy parking and shopping malls. They have gotten, if anything, even more engaged with city life. In 2010 they opened a second Seva in the heart of Detroit, just a few blocks south of the DIA, attached to the N'Namdi Center for Contemporary Art. George N'Namdi is another old customer. "He began working on us eight years ago to open a restaurant there," Jeff says. The Detroit Seva is smaller and has "basically the same menu."

The new Westgate Seva is clean-lined and sleek—the old pine-paneled, macramé-trimmed seventies feel is gone. Only the stained glass remains, all of it neatly built into one wall; they also kept the Greg Sobran paintings—Bellock was an early patron. The new Seva isn't entirely finished yet. A private dining room is still under construction. Jeff says he'll eventually replace the flapping banner outside with more permanent signage but freely admits he just ran out of money. "The winter weather this year affected everyone. Money earmarked for the sign—

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

"People who have a knack with style make it stylish," says Dear Golden owner Lauren Naimola, describing both her customers and herself. "I don't pay attention to what others are wearing. I'm always the most dressed-up person in the room."

well, we had to use it for something else. We just had to get open."

Seva, 2541 Jackson Ave. (Westgate), 662–1111. Sun–Thurs. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–10 p.m. sevarestaurant.com

"Crocs are boring."

Dear Golden's classy curated vintage

Lauren Naimola's ensemble is polished, elegant, and not easily categorizable. It seems to be vintage—since she's the proprietor of the newly opened **Dear Golden** vintage store, that's a safe bet—but it's not costume-y or even identifiable with any particular decade.

"It's not what you call stylish," she says of her dark cotton shirtwaist with a peasant neckline and a full skirt. She has cinched it with a belt that has a complicated metal clasp and is wearing knee-high laced boots. "The dress is from the seventies. Well, maybe older: it has a metal zipper," she notes with quick professional appraisal. "The boots are from the eighties." She can't remember how or when she acquired them.

"There's great stuff that I pass up," says Naimola. "Because it's my shop, I can say 'it's just not my color. I don't like it.'" So don't expect to see much red or lime green here, two colors she intensely dislikes.

"People who have a knack with style make it stylish" is how she describes her customers and herself. "I don't pay attention to what other people are wearing. I'm always the most dressed-up person in the room," she says calmly.

She gravitates toward vintage clothes because "what most people are wearing is really boring. I think most clothes today are boring." Like? "Crocs are boring. I'm not loving that look. I'm not loving slovenliness or sweats." But she's not unreasonably obsessed with form over function—for instance, down jackets don't bother her: "In Michigan, people need comfortable warm coats; that's got to happen. I was just telling my husband that vintage shoes are beautiful but mostly they're uncomfortable. I wore Dansko clogs while I was setting up the shop."

She is tugging a slate blue tiered dress ($240, "late forties or early fifties") onto a mannequin in the window. "There are a lot of vintage stores in the world. This one is just for women. Everything is hand selected, highly curated. It has a narrow scope, the twenties through the seventies, no polyester." (She seems to have musical tastes to match: a Cole Porter song plays softly, followed by early Springsteen.)

Dear Golden's jewelry, from more or less the same decades, is a business within a business run by manager Michele Longo. Longo says, "I'm drawn to really big, unusual pieces, things that you wouldn't see anywhere else." She's wearing an assortment of striking rings: silver filigree twined around Mexican fire agates, amethyst, coral, malachite, turquoise, and an assortment of wood and brass bangles up to her elbow.

Naimola, thirty-nine, from Adrian, started collecting clothes when she was in high school (where she also collected her husband, Chad Pratt—they finally married in 2006). She majored in English at the U-M and snagged a job at U-M Press "designing book covers and events," but meanwhile the clothing collection was getting out of hand. She opened an "atelier" in Ypsi in 2006, which served as HQ for her online business and private customers, and finally quit her U-M job in 2010.

"There's great stuff that I pass up," says Naimola. "Because it's my shop, I can say 'it's just not my color. I don't like it.'" So don't expect to see much red or lime green here, two colors she intensely dislikes. "In fact, I like 'non-colors,'" like the gray and cream on her business card and her large selection of pale, long dresses that are often bought as wedding gowns, whether that was their original intent or not.

"It's not kitschy vintage. It's wearable, relevant to today."

Dear Golden, 211 S. Fourth Ave., 369–3010. Tues.–Sat. 11 a.m.–7 p.m. Closed Sun. & Mon. deargolden.com

Briefly Noted

Behind Downtown Home and Garden, Mark Hodesh's **Mark's Carts** and its sidekick Bill's Beer Garden opened, in theory anyway, on April 4, a Friday when the temperature hardly broke the forties and rain lashed down during the dinner hour.

Most of the carts opted to forego the technical opening day, but Xavi Vitta was there, ebullient, talkative, showing off not only what he was currently offering but dragging out photos of what he hopes to be selling if all goes well with **Simply Spanish.** Excited as he was, he modestly emphasized that the food speaks for itself: "It's just the normal, traditional tapas that I know." Newly arrived in Ann Arbor from Valencia ("Valenthia" as he pronounces it, with a buzzing Castilian lisp), Vitta comes from a family in the food business, and his marriage brought him over here. (The identity of his wife and his family restaurant in Valencia is a subject upon which the otherwise voluble Vitta prefers to keep a secret for the time being: "I want to do this myself.") He's starting simple—but "with the best of the best," Iberico ham, "which I believe is the best ham in the world—most of what is around here is fake," he says. Calamari from "Andaluthia," marinated mussels, Marcona almonds, olives, and "of course, bread." He'll always have veggie paella, and on the weekends, seafood paella and its relative, *fideuà.*

Also new at Mark's: "Look for the short Asian guy!" says Sean Zhang, at **Xdelica.**

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

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Marketplace Changes

Zhang describes his and wife Leann's dumplings as the very best, most traditional fried dumplings you'll get anywhere in Ann Arbor, but also says they've invented a variety of fusion dumplings with fillings like cheese.

Great Grilled Sandwiches claims to grill in TexMex, Asian, and American flavors. **Old Carolina Barbecue**, newly opened in Cranbrook (see below), will have a cart. It replaces Satchel's BBQ—Old Carolina was happy for the opportunity to raise brand awareness, and Satchel's found the logistics of operating a cart on the other side of town was not worth it, says Hodesh. **Mighty Good Coffee** is plenty well known downtown, but for the first time, it will have a cart. Returning are San Street, El Manantial, and Hut K.

Hodesh is a little in awe of what he has wrought since starting his outside food court three years ago, pointing out that many cart owners are immigrants. "This is not a lark," he says. "Customers appreciate how courageous the cart owners are, taking on a new language, culture, and country by selling food from an eight-by-ten-foot cart."

Mark's Carts, E. Washington between First and Ashley, see markscartsannarbor.com for details on individual carts.

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"The Ann Arbor community is underserved when it comes to barbecue," says Nick Ferris, owner of the **Old Carolina Barbecue Company** franchise at Cranbrook Village. He seems to have called that right. Since the March opening, the line has often snaked out the door. On the menu are ribs, pulled pork, brisket, chicken, and turkey; sides of hush puppies, mac and cheese, two kinds of coleslaw, and a slew of other things; several kinds of barbecue sauce, including one with mustard; and, to drink, the rare and very Carolina soft drink Cheerwine. Ferris grew up in his granny's restaurant in Green Bay, Wisconsin, called, natch, the Ferris Wheel, but he can speak corporate lingo. "There's no other fast-casual concept quite like this. It's a very distinctive style of barbecue with partial service: you order in a line, and your meal is brought to your table."

Old Carolina is a small Ohio-based chain, and this is the first franchise outside the state. "We're not on a fast growth projectile," says Ferris. "We're on a controlled growth projectile. We have visions of being national, but we won't get there overnight. We'll probably grow five to ten units this year."

Old Carolina Barbecue Company, 980 Eisenhower Parkway (Cranbrook Village), 389–7100. Sun.–Thurs. 10:30 a.m.–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10:30 a.m.–10 p.m. oldcarolina.com

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A year ago, Lisa Zahra closed her Life is Good store in Dexter and announced it would reappear somewhere on Ann Arbor's Main Street. Sure enough, in March, Mark Messmore opened a **Life Is Good Genuine Neighborhood Shoppe** in the former Seyfried Jewelers—with Zahra as its manager.

Zahra has known Messmore since he was a high school kid waiting tables at a Dexter restaurant. And Messmore, in turn, knows Boston brothers Bert and John Jacobs, who created the Life Is Good line of feel-good message T-shirts. He says the Jacobs brothers wanted him to come to Boston and work for corporate, but "I told them I was living the dream, teaching Spanish at Saline High School," which has been his day job since he graduated from U-M five years ago. Buying the store (which isn't a franchise per se, just an agreement to sell LIG products) was his solution.

Messmore is a man of almost preternatural energy and goodwill: with his wiry frame, closely shorn hair, and wide grin, he looks like that smiley stick figure that appears on a lot of LIG clothing. And his sunny optimism is just the icing on a keen business acumen. While still in college, he bought his Main Street condo above Starbucks. He can't quite remember if it was bought solely on the proceeds of working "about a hundred hours a week" waiting tables at the Red Hawk, or if by then he had also gotten into day trading, where he also made a small pile. Along the way, he started a computer service business that he runs out of another Main Street address.

The LIG store is just a sideline, largely staffed by his past and present students. Messmore proudly pays the $10.10 an hour that he hopes will become the national minimum wage, and some percentage of store profits are kicked back to a Life Is Good foundation.

Who buys the LIG brand? Vacationers in resort towns, originally, but hopefully, students will begin to. As stores begin to open in college towns, Messmore says, the brand has rolled out "a lot of the clothing with a more youthful, sporty style, and a slimmer cut." On this particular day, a pediatric nurse named Pam was buying a T-shirt. "Most peds nurses wear T-shirts instead of uniforms," she explains. "The younger ones wear Disney princesses, but I like these better."

Life Is Good, 304 S. Main, 369–6237. Sun.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–10 p.m. ligannarbor.com

The **Little Seedling** repotted itself in a busier location in March, over by the Goldfish Swim School in Boulevard Plaza, a fortuitous juxtaposition. "We're doing some cross promotion, selling reusable swim diapers," says owner Molly Ging.

Reusable diapers—a long time ago they were just called "diapers"—is the cornerstone of Ging's business, originally Tree City Diapers in Ging's basement. In 2008 she changed the name to reflect her expanding scope—toys, clothing, strollers, car seats—and moved into a storefront on Zeeb, and with this relocation she's slowly creeping past toddler age, rolling out clothes and toys for kids up to eight years old. Of all her merchandise she claims: "We try to save families money—it's quality over quantity. Our products are designed to last—high chairs you can use for years rather than six months." Her go-to brands include Skip Hop toys and diaper bags, Kickee Pants clothing, Britax car seats and strollers, and Brio toys.

But diapers are still her hobbyhorse, and bumGenius is the brand she reaches for to give a quick demonstration. She always starts out with the big picture: if you use bumGenius, "you'll probably use twenty-four to thirty-six diapers from birth to potty training, a total cost of around $600 compared to the $2,000 for disposables." At $23 a diaper, it's a perfect present for a baby shower: "One diaper—it doesn't seem like much, but it's huge. You're buying the equivalent of months' worth of disposable diapers." These are fancy-pants diapers, with a leak-proof shell and other extras. If you like something more traditional—cloth and rectangular—she's got those too (and when the kid is done with them, they can be repurposed as a Swiffer mop head).

Once a month she gives a free diaper workshop. It used to be on Saturday morning, but she's currently rethinking the calendar: "With the Swim School on one side and Ace Hardware on the other, the parking lot is usually full on Saturdays."

The Little Seedling, 2121 West Stadium (Boulevard Plaza), 418–2392. Hours: Mon–Sat. 9 a.m.–7 p.m., Sun 11 a.m.–6 p.m. thelittleseedling.com

"I'll be closed for at least six months," says Catherine Thursby, owner of **Red Shoes,** the gallery of arts and crafts on Ashley, many of them Thursby's own, along with vintage furniture and home goods. Thursby was diagnosed with breast cancer in February and closed the store "so I can get healthy," but she says firmly, "I'm not done! I'm still using the space as a studio and will be doing special events when I'm feeling up to it."

In the meantime, she's partnering with **Graphic Art Wholesalers** on Main Street (next to Lena) where her old friend, owner McCabe Ash, sounded pretty happy for the opportunity to display a new line of merchandise in his frame shop without having to go shopping for it. "We've got basically everything she was selling at her store: paintings, image transfers, candles, jewelry, vases, furniture, and craft stuff."

Dancing Dog Gallery
302 E Liberty, Ann Arbor

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The Zingerman's Times

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BREAKING NEWS FROM THE WHITE HOUSE:

According to several eye witness accounts, U.S. President Barack Obama stopped by Zingerman's Delicatessen on his recent visit to Ann Arbor. Sources confirm Obama ordered the No.2 Reuben, which he later declared "killer."

ROASTER'S PICK COFFEE

Rwanda - Dukunde Kawa

This coffee is marked by a complex sweetness, and flavors of raisin and cranberry, in addition to a citrus-like acidity with a note of milk chocolate.

BREAD OF THE MONTH

Jewish Rye

Real Jewish Rye is an endangered species these days, this loaf is handmade the old-fashioned way. Find out why Jane and Michael Stern called Zingerman's loaves "America's best rye" in *Saveur* magazine. **$4.50/loaf** (reg. $6.99)

CHEESE OF THE MONTH

Sharon Hollow

This fresh, delicately flaky cow's milk cheese is gently hand-landled for a rich flavor.

$10.99/ea (reg. $7.99 ea)

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Zingerman's Roadhouse	2501 Jackson Rd. 734.663.3663
Zingerman's Catering and Events	422 Detroit St. 734.663.3400
Zingerman's Bakehouse	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.761.2095
Zingerman's Mail Order	610 Phoenix Dr. 888.636.8162
ZingTrain	3778 Plaza Dr. 734.930.1919
Zingerman's Creamery	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.0500
Zingerman's Coffee Company	3723 Plaza Dr. 734.929.6060
Zingerman's Candy Manufactory	3711 Plaza Dr. 734.277.1922

www.Zingermans.com

5TH ANNUAL CAMP BACON ITINERARY ANNOUNCED!

All the Best in Bacon May 29-June 1, 2014; Proceeds Benefit Southern Foodways Alliance

From the *Times* Leisure pages: Amid the upcoming summer camp season, one event is drawing a special breed of camper. Tamworth, Berkshire, Duroc and other heritage hogs are joining the nation's foremost bacon-makers, chefs, musicians, poets, and historians along with bacon lovers from around the country at the fifth annual Zingerman's Camp Bacon, a celebration of the nation's favorite cured and smoked meat. Seats are limited – reserve now! For details, full schedule, and reservations, visit www.zingermanscampbacon.com or write to baconbits@zingermans.com.

MAIN EVENT

Saturday, May 31, 2014 • Cornman Farms

8AM-4PM (Breakfast At 7:30Am) • $150/Seat

Times correspondents report that Zingerman's Camp Bacon main event, the world famous annual celebration of all things bacon, is changing venues this year to Zingerman's Cornman Farms, in Dexter, MI. What is not changing, sources confirm, is a full day of learning, eating and fun with bacon makers, producers, poets, historians and musicians.

This year's special guests include:

Nancy Newsom, the Lucinda Williams of Country Ham; **Bob & Tanya Nueske**, the Johnny and Roseanne Cash of Bacon; **Amy Emberling**, co-managing partner of Zingerman's Bakehouse on baking with bacon; **Steve Carre** on Australian bacon Down Under; **Raul Martin** from Spain on the amazing Iberico bellota hams; **Cristiano Creminelli** artisan salumi maker crafting traditional Northern Italian recipes in the US; **Ari Weinzweig**, Zingerman's co-founder on the history of pork among Converso Jews; **Susan Schwallie** on the big trends in American bacon buying.

Space is very limited. Check out www.zingermanscampbacon.com for details and reservations.

THURSDAY, MAY 29
Zingerman's Roadhouse Presents The 3rd Annual Bacon Ball
7pm • $70

Chef Alex Young hosts guest Nancy Newsom for a pork centric Kentucky-themed event. Reserve now at 734.663.3663 or www.zingermanscommunity.com.

FRIDAY, MAY 30
Bakin' with Bacon Class
$125 • 3723 Plaza Drive
8am-12pm or 1:30-5:30pm

Learn to make peppered bacon farm bread, bacon cheddar scones, and bacon pecan sandy cookies. Reserve your spot at www.bakewithzing.com.

SUNDAY, JUNE 1
Camp Bacon Street Fair
Kerrytown 11am-2 pm • FREE! admission, donation to Washtenaw 4-H requested.

Bacon themed tastings, games, vendors and more. Fun for the whole family!

Visit www.zingermanscampbacon.com for up to the minute details and to reserve a spot! Space is limited!

Local Grads Bid Tearful Farewell to Zingerman's, Celebrate with Flavor

According to the *Times* education desk, area grads experiencing panic at the prospect of leaving behind their favorite deli are being advised to celebrate their last hurrah with Zingerman's Catering.Check out the Deli's full menu at **www.zingermanscatering.com**, including delicious deli trays, bountiful breakfast baskets and a Grillin' for the Grad package. Insiders also confirm parties are being booked at Zingerman's Events on Fourth in Kerrytown. Call 734.663.3400 for more information.

Reserve now to celebrate graduation at the Roadhouse! Call 734.663.3663 or go on online at www.zingermansroadhouse.com

Grads report planning to keep in touch with Zingerman's by ordering their favorite specialty food items by mail. Order at www.zingermans.com.

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finalist for outstanding confection

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(the Oscars of the Food World!)

Mail Order Saves Mother's Day!

Across the country, people who feared Mother's Day would be ruined because they didn't have the perfect gift for mom are collectively sighing with relief that Zingerman's Mail Order has come to the rescue with traditional, handmade, **Buttercream Cakes**. Made by mixing in real Wisconsin butter and Madagascar vanilla, these cakes are helping mom's favorite kids from coast to coast answer the age old question "Who loves you best, Mom?" with a definitive answer. ***Times* holiday bureau confirms these cakes come in three extraordinary flavors:**

Hummingbird
A southern twist, with toasted coconut, fresh bananas, toasted pecans and pineapple, with vanilla frosting.

Neato-politan
chocolate cake, strawberry buttercream layers, all covered in vanilla buttercream frosting.

Americana
white buttermilk cake with chocolate buttercream frosting and brownie pieces on the sides.

These cakes are available EXCLUSIVELY by Mail Order. Sources say all of Zingerman's buttercream cakes ship free!

Zingerman's Mail Order has gifts that help folks everywhere say "Love ya, mom!" Call now: 888.636.8162 or visit www.zingermans.com

Marketplace Changes

Graphic Art Wholesalers, 224 S Main. 769–5110. Mon.–Sat. 10 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m.

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The corner of Fourth Ave. and Liberty will be much changed this spring. Nick Stamadianos will not be sunning himself in his favorite spot outside his **Cloverleaf** restaurant, as he always did at the first sign of warming weather. He died suddenly in March. Son George, thirty-eight, had been planning on coming back to the business anyway, to give his mother, Pat, and his dad a little relief. George hadn't been spending as much time at the Cloverleaf lately—he's been working around Detroit and Monroe as a union laborer—but he could run the Cloverleaf blindfolded. "When I was twelve I was washing dishes and peeling potatoes. It was a different upbringing." Back then the restaurant was on Broadway, where the Northside Grill is now.

There will be no price or menu changes, at least until food costs force his hand. "I was just over at Gordon Foods and spent forty dollars on a corned beef this big," his hands span something roughly the size of a grapefruit, though, on the upside, he's grateful to have a GFS on W. Liberty instead of having to drive out to Carpenter Rd.

"My dad was known for giving an affordable meal," and he gave them to a lot of people who couldn't even afford Nick's old-school diner prices. "If you were honest with him and sober, he'd give you a free meal," George says.

"And disabled Vietnam vets," calls longtime customer Sue Sabo from her table across the room. "A lot of restaurants get impatient with people in wheelchairs. Nick really cared for them."

Cloverleaf, 201 E. Liberty, 662–1266. Mon.–Sat. 7 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

In the Works

Blimpy Burger found a new home. According to an April post on the fundraising site indiegogo. com, after a few relocation attempts fell through, owner Rich Magner found what would seem to be the perfect location: next to the Fleetwood in the former **Eastern Flame.** "The work to Blimpy-fy the building will commence shortly," says the post, with the $20,396 raised earlier this year on Indiegogo.

The Eastern Flame closed after six years in business. Its owners could not be reached.

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By the end of the year, Ali Ramlawi hopes to have **Jerusalem Garden** moved around the corner into its new East Liberty address, formerly Seva. He submitted plans to the city in April and plans to begin construction after the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase moves to S. Fourth Ave. in the middle of May. "We'll stay in business at this address until we're ready to move, and when we do move, it could be overnight," Ramlawi says. "We won't be closed for more than a day."

By the end of the year, Ali Ramlawi hopes to have Jerusalem Garden moved around the corner into Seva's former spot on Liberty. He plans to begin construction after the Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase moves to S. Fourth Ave. in the middle of May.

Closings

Lee Hanna said he would close his **Greenback Dollar** store in mid-April, but by the end of March most shelves were bare. Malcolm Gin was in buying some of the light fixtures for his family's Happy Wok down the road (Gin had been reluctant to give his name, but Hanna insisted: "Go ahead! It's great advertising!") Hanna had to move last year to make room for GFS and hoped that his old customers would find his new location. They didn't. "Just last week someone called and said she had just found out we had moved. I told her she better get here quick. I've been blessed with twelve years of owning my own store, but now I'm going to have to use my managerial skills to look for a job. I can't afford to open a new store."

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In the midst of a restaurant boom on campus-area East Liberty, two restaurants closed. Neither was around long enough to garner much of a following.

"**RJ's Coney Island** has been sold! Thank you to everyone who supported us during this chapter of our lives," announced the Rzeppa family by Facebook post on March 17. RJ's replaced Mr. Greek's Coney Island a year ago. A sign in the window says a bistro is forthcoming.

Hommus Express, which opened in 2012, also closed in mid-March. Owner Said Namari had bought the former La Pita Fresh with ideas about how to tweak its Middle Eastern menu, but he didn't have any more luck than La Pita Fresh, also a short-lived experiment. Since his Ann Arbor opening, Namari has opened another Hommus Express in Southfield, which, said his manager there, is alive and well.

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Office Depot has eaten **OfficeMax,** though it seems like the opposite. Office Depot at Cranbrook is the one closing its doors on May 31 and passing out $10 coupons to shop at the OfficeMax at Oak Valley, which for the time being is keeping its name. OfficeMax's store manager said Brian Levine at corporate would explain it all. Brian Levine did not return multiple calls.

Got a retail or restaurant change? Email sallymitani@gmail.com, or leave voicemail at 769–3175 x309. ■

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Music at Nightspots

by John Hinchey

Listings are based on information available at press time. ***Up-to-date schedules are posted at AnnArborObserver.com,*** *but it may be advisable to call ahead. Times are noted only if they differ from the default showtimes listed in the description of each club.*

The Arena

203 E. Washington 222–9999

This downtown sports bar features live music Mon. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Mon.: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of roots Americana, classic rock, and blues, including many originals, by a jazz-tinged, jam-oriented trio led by local singer-guitarist Al-Saadi. With drummer Skeeto Valdez and bassist Jordan Schug.

The Ark

316 S. Main 761–1451

Michigan's leading showcase for American and international performers of all forms of traditional and roots music and contemporary songwriting. Shows almost every night at 8 p.m., Mon.–Sat., & 7:30 p.m., Sun. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are sold in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) and theark.org, and at the door. **May 1: "Joni Mitchell's *Blue:* A Celebration."** A cast of several of NYC's top female singer-songwriters—who call themselves Chicks with Dip—are joined by Philadelphia percussionist Cheryl Prashker to perform Joni Mitchell's epochal 1974 singer-songwriter masterpiece. Performers include Meg Braun, Honor Finnegan, Sharon Goldman, Catherine Miles, Karyn Oliver, Elisa Peimer, Allison Scola, Carolann Solebello, and Allison Tartalia. $20. **May 2: Peter Mulvey.** Highly regarded folkie singer-songwriter from Milwaukee who is known for his complex guitar work, expressively playful vocals, and dark, vividly rendered lyrics. *Acoustic Guitar* called his 2004 CD *Kitchen Radio* a "moody, jazz-inflected" collection that is "engaging, down to earth, and utterly original." Tonight he celebrates the release of his new CD, *Silver Ladder.* $15. **May 3: Cheryl Wheeler.** This versatile veteran singer-songwriter is known for her hauntingly pure voice, biting sense of humor, and alternately poignant and whimsical songs about human relationships and everyday life. Her songs have been recorded by the likes of Suzy Bogguss, Nanci Griffith, Maura O'Connell, and Bette Midler, and her latest CD, *Pointing at the Sun,* is a rich musical blend of folk, country, rock, and pop influences. $15. **May 5: Peter Wolf.** (A May 4 show is sold out). Best known as the longtime frontman of the durably semipopular 70s R&B-based blues-rock group J. Geils Band, Wolf is a distinctive vocalist whose style is an engagingly seductive blend of blue-eyed soul intensity with the devil-may-care ethos of garage rock. He has since fashioned a quietly impressive solo career: his 2002 CD *Sleepless,* made *Rolling Stone's* list of the 500 best albums of all time, and his latest record, the 2010 CD *Midnight Souvenirs,* is a typically mongrel collection highlighted by duets with Shelby Lynne, Neko Case, and Merle Haggard. $35. **May 6: Milk Carton Kids.** *Sold out.* $20. **May 7: Priscilla Ahn.** Pennsylvania-bred, L.A.-based pop-folk singer-songwriter with an angelic voice whose 2008 debut Blue Note CD, *A Good Day,* drew praise for its artful blend of pop whimsy with emotional resonance. Her brand-new new CD, *This Is Where We Are,* adds a grittier edge to her expressive palette. $15. **May 8: "For Pete's Sake: A Pete Seeger Birthday Tribute and Memorial."** A celebration of the legacy of the folk legend who died in January features in-the-round performances, with lots of sing-alongs and between-song stories. The all-star lineup of area singer-songwriters includes **Chris Buhalis, Annie & Rod Capps, Sally Potter, Billy King, Magdalen Fossum,** and **Gemini,** an acoustic trio now that twin brothers Laszlo and Sandor Slomovits have been joined by San's daughter Emily. A benefit for the Ark. $10. **May 9: Jessica Hernandez & the Deltas.** Vintage Detroit-style rock 'n' soul with a world-music sophistication by this nationally acclaimed sextet led by singer-songwriter Hernandez, who plays guitar, keyboards, and percussion. "Jessica Hernandez and her Deltas had this interesting twist as the music they played was simply unclassifiable, and could sometimes take some bohemian-cabaret, or gypsy-jazz or even funky-bluesy-soul turn," says a *Rock NYC Live and Recorded* reviewer. "It was always festive, with a dark side, and everything sounded authentic." $11. **May 10: Brother Joscephus & the Love Revolution.** Brooklyn-based 12-piece band that plays a New Orleans–inspired mix of soul, classic rock, and feel-good gospel. $20. **May 11: Willie Watson.** Solo performance by this Americana folk singer best known for singing the tenor lead and playing rhythm guitar with Old Crow Medicine Show. His repertoire ranges from Utah Phillips and Leadbelly tunes to traditional songs collected by the 1930s folk-country crossover pioneer Bascom Lamar Lunsford to Rabbit Brown's iconic "James Alley Blues." Opening act is **Mandolin Orange,** the Carrboro (NC) bluegrass-based roots music duo of guitarist Andrew Marlin and fiddler Emily Frantz. $15. **May 12: Community High School Jazz Band.** Performance by this nationally prominent local high school ensemble, a popular attraction at festivals and fundraisers. $5 from Community High School and at the door. 6 & 8 p.m. **May 13: Suzanne Vega.** This gifted avant-folk New York City singer-songwriter is best known for her 1987 pop hit "Luka" and the oft-sampled "Tom's Diner." Her most recent collection of new material is *Beauty and Crime,* a collection of 11 songs about New York City that includes the acerbic take on male views of female beauty "Edith Wharton's Figurines," the sly Latin-tinged song "Pornographer's Dream," and "As You Are Now," a touching song for her college-age daughter. She's also released solo acoustic re-recordings of her first 4 albums. Opening act is **Ari Hest,** a young New York City singer-songwriter who writes literate, thoughtful, earnestly introspective songs on personal themes and whose vocal style has been described as a cross between James Taylor and Peter Gabriel. $40. **May 14 & 15: Arlo Guthrie.** The son of American folk music pioneer Woody Guthrie, Arlo first established his own identity—an indelible blend of beguiling humor and acerbic political wit—in the late 60s with his epic talking ballad, "Alice's Restaurant." He's a first-class songwriter and a captivating interpreter of contemporary tunes by the likes of Steve Goodman and Bob Dylan, as well as traditional songs, ballads, and stories. $50. **May 16: The RFD Boys.** Authentic bluegrass by these longtime local favorites who have appeared in numerous festivals and on the cover of *Bluegrass Unlimited* magazine. Their shows blend top-notch musicianship with funny between-songs dialogue. They have several recordings, including *Live and Unrehearsed,* a 1994 Ark performance. $11 at the door only. **May 18: Martin Hayes & Dennis Cahill.** Artful, contemplative adaptations of traditional Irish music by the duo of guitarist Cahill, a Chicago native whose parents emigrated from County Kerry, and fiddler Hayes, known for the slow, lyrical style derived from his native County Clare. *The New York Times* calls their music "a Celtic complement to Steve Reich's quartets or Miles Davis's Sketches of Spain." $20. **May 20: Lipbone Redding.** Eclectic mix of jazz, blues, and soul by this versatile NYC-based singer-songwriter, a former subway musician who incorporates vocal mimicry of various brass instruments into his performances. $15. **May 21: Hayes Carll.** Talented young Texas honky-tonk troubadour whose hilarious "She Left Me for Jesus"—dubbed the "greatest country song ever written" by Don Imus—won the 2008 Americana Music Association Song of the Year Award. Carll's songs draw on a wide array of influences, from the pantheon of Texas singer-songwriters to Dylan and John Prine, but his deepest affinity is with the barroom poetics of early Tom Waits and the Beat and postbeat writers—from Kerouac to Bukowsky—who shaped Waits. The title track of his superb 2011 CD, *KMAG YOYO,* blends the body English of Dylan's "Subterranean Homesick Blues" and James McMurtrey's "Choctaw Bingo" with the ethos of *Gravity's Rainbow.* $20. **May 23: Suzy Bogguss.** One of the most popular and critically respected country singers of the past 30 years, Bogguss is known for her strong, clear, expressive contralto voice and her eclectic taste in material, which ranges from enjoyable pop-country fluff to challenging works by top contemporary songwriters. She had her biggest hit in 1994 with John Hiatt's "Drive South," and she has recorded songs by the likes of Cheryl Wheeler, Julie Miller, and Matraca Berg, with whom she wrote "Somebody to Love." Her current concerts showcase material from recent CDs like *Swing,* a collection of elegant, western swing-flavored renditions of jazz standards and contemporary jazz songs, and *American Folk Songbook,* a collection of folk standards like "Shenandoah," "Wayfaring Stranger," and "Red River Valley." $25. **May 27: Jadea Kelly.** Toronto country-folk singer-songwriter who won the "best country" award at the 2008 Toronto Independent Music Awards. Opening act is **Del Barber,** a western Canada singer-songwriter whose new CD, *Prairieography,* is a collection of songs celebrating his native landscape, its people, and their stories. FREE. All encouraged to bring nonperishable food or money to donate to Food Gatherers. **May 28: Katie Herzig.** Nashville-based singer-songwriter whose country-tinged pop-folk songs have been featured in several films and TV shows. Opening act is **Elizabeth & the Catapult,** a Brooklyn, NY, pop-rock trio led by the brassy-voiced singer-songwriter and keyboardist Elizabeth Ziman. $15. **May 29: The Howlin' Brothers.** *See review, p. 95.* Acoustic string trio from Tennessee whose repertoire draws on a wide spectrum of traditional music, from country blues and gospel to New Orleans jazz and bluegrass. $15. **May 30: Seth Walker.** Blues-based down-home Americana by this singer-songwriter from Austin whose latest CD, *Time Can Change,* has been praised for blending "the grit of Delbert McClinton and the detail and insight of Robert Cray." $15. **May 31: The Subdudes.** Roots-rock band from New Orleans whose gospel-flavored vocal harmonies, limber rhythmic verve, and blues- and country-inspired lyrical sensibility often provoke comparisons to Little Feat and the Band. Led by the songwriting duo of guitarist Tommy Malone and accordionist John Magnie, the band returns to the Ark for the 1st time in nearly 4 years with its complete original lineup. *Note:* The band's Ark shows usually sell out very quickly. $30.

The B-Side

310 E. Washington 214–9995

This all-ages venue in the Neutral Zone teen center (with a side alley entrance off Fifth Ave.) features a mix of touring, local, and teen bands, usually Sat., 7–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. May schedule TBA.

Bar Louie

401 E. Liberty 794–3000

This downtown tavern features live music Wed. 8–11:30 p.m. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1 a.m. Also, salsa dancing with a DJ on Fri. 10:30 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Wed.: Laith Al-Saadi.** See Black Pearl. **May 3:** TBA. **May 10: Revolution Nation.** Versatile East Lansing sextet whose repertoire ranges from rock, soul, and funk to blues and hip-hop. **May 17: Dan Dahsoulman & Jake Lives Band.** See Mash. **May 24: Brett Mitchell & the Giant Ghost.** Midland pop-rock band led by Mitchell, a singer-songwriter and drummer whom *Grand Rapids Press* music critic John Sinkevics calls "the new millennium's version of Marshall Crenshaw." **May 31: Michael May & the Messarounds.** Jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet led by vocalist and blues harpist May.

Bigalora

3050 Washtenaw 971–2442

This pizzeria in the Arbor Hills shopping center features live jazz, Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight. No cover, no dancing. **Every Wed.: Ron Brooks Trio.** Mainstream bebop-rooted jazz by this trio led by veteran local bassist Brooks. With pianist Tad Weed and drummer George Davidson.

The Black Pearl

302 S. Main 222–0400

This seafood and martini bar features live music Tues. & Wed. 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **May 6: Laith Al-Saadi.** Soulful acoustic rock and blues covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. **May 7: Beth Stalker & Jim Rawlings.** An eclectic mix of styles, from blues, R&B, and jazz to rock and country, by the Detroit Music Award–winning duo of singer-songwriter Stalker and songwriter-guitarist Rawlings. **May 13: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **May 14: Alison Albrecht.** 13-year-old Detroit singer-songwriter whose music blends folk, pop, and country. **May 20: Laith Al-Saadi.** See above. **May 21: Garret Bielaniec & Billy Raffoul.** Classic rock and blues covers by this singer-guitarist duo. **May 27: Laith Al-Saadi.**

blues

Blues in the City

Alive and well

If we take the 1914 publication of W.C. Handy's "St. Louis Blues" as a starting point, this year marks the one-hundredth anniversary of the blues genre. The music has waxed and waned in popularity since then, but hand-wringing over its survival seems unnecessary. Lately the blues are back in downtown Ann Arbor, with several weekend shows monthly at Mash on Washington. The blues-whiskey nexus has historically been a productive one, and as an old country song observed, good whiskey never lets you lose your place. So I stopped in for a couple of shows last month to sample the state of the blues art.

Mash is a pleasantly meandering basement space that fills the needs of barside flirts, deep conversers, and music lovers equally well and encourages free flow between these categories. The music has a room of its own, with long connected tables across the back for groups that want to talk and smaller ones in front of the bandstand. There's a small dance area that's more suited to individual eruptions of enthusiasm than to sustained dancing by couples; get up and move, and you might attract the attention of one of the musicians, but the place is not really a dance club.

J. ADRIAN WYLIE

I heard a couple of generations of the blues that suggest the music is alive and well. The Bluescasters have been around for a decade, and all the members have been part of other current and past musical projects. All four members seem to be out to have some fun, and this spills out into a spirit of creativity. "If you don't know a lot of these songs, it's because we wrote 'em," says guitarist Kerry Adams, introducing one of the group's originals—all of them rock-solid takes on Chicago blues, jump blues, and proto-rockabilly models, but none of them purely conventional.

The following week brought guitarist Chris Canas and his band, the Blues Revolution. Canas is a youthful local hero, a product of the Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts, and he brought out quite a few of his age-mates, although younger folk looked in from the bar to check out the Bluescasters as well. Canas presents a state-of-the-art blues that represents the crunching, difficult style of Stevie Ray Vaughan, mixing it in with funk, rock, and Motown and R&B numbers from vocalist Angie Cottingham. He also has a good-sized bag of originals, and the fact that members of both these bands feel moved to express themselves in the blues medium is more encouraging for its future than is Canas's self-professed blues evangelism.

Mash has also presented the Terraplanes, who do the tightest version of "All Shook Up" that you will ever hear, and the place also features quieter music on weekends from 6 to 9, while your whiskey is being sipped rather than swigged. From an Ann Arbor perspective, the second blues century is looking good.

—James M. Manheim

See above. **May 28: Lucas Paul.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter whose influences range from the Beatles to Dave Matthews and Kings of Leon.

The Blind Pig
208 S. First St. 996–8555

This local music club features live music 4 (Wed.–Sat.) or more nights a week, with a varied assortment of local and out-of-town rock 'n' roll, blues, reggae, and dance bands, 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted). Also, occasional early shows, usually 7–10 p.m. Karaoke on Mon.; closed most Sun. & Tues. If there's an opening act, the headliner usually goes on stage between 11:30 p.m. and midnight. Cover, dancing. If advance tickets are sold, they are available at the 8 Ball Saloon (below the club) and at etix.com. **May 1: Joe Hertler & the Rainbow Seekers.** Lansing pop-funk and soul quartet led by singer-songwriter Hertler. Opening acts are **Kansas Bible Company,** a Nashville-based, Indiana-bred 12-piece rock 'n' roll band that features a 5-man horn line, 3 guitarists, 2 percussionists, keyboards, and bass, and **Abigail Stauffer** (see Mash). Advance tickets: $12 ($15 at the door). **May 2: Ann Arbor Soul Club.** Classic soul music by the local DJ duo of Brad Hales and Robert Wells. **May 3: The Slackers.** Ska and rocksteady by this popular New York City band that fleshes out its sound with everything from the traditional horns to pedal steel guitar and violin. "The Slackers are perhaps the best and the brightest of American ska to date; they reinvent their sound with each album, keeping the music fresh, alive, and relevant," says AllMusic.com reviewer Margaret Crandall. Opening act is **Green Room Rockers,** an Indiana ska band. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). **May 7: The Both.** Introspective, poetically charged, pop-savvy ballads and anthems by the duo of veteran rock 'n' roll singer-songwriters **Aimee Mann** and **Ted Leo.** "What unites both artists is their appreciation for songs: well-constructed melodies that create an emotional foundation even before a single word is sung," says *Baltimore Sun* critic Greg Kot in his review of the duo's eponymous debut CD. "They share vocals, often trading lines or verses and reveling in wordless harmonies that become yet another hook in an album full of them … If anything, a knowing sense of mortality underlies many of the sentiments: Time is slipping away from us, so how are we using what's left?" Opening act is Canadian indie rock singer-songwriter **Nick Diamonds,** front man of the Islands and several other indie bands. Advance tickets: $20. 8 p.m.–1 a.m. **May 8:** TBA. **May 9: Jerry Sprague.** Veteran local roots-rock singer-guitarist who is celebrating the release of the CD *Summer State of Mind.* He performs tonight with his new band, which includes longtime collaborator Mike Zielinski on keyboards and 3 of Sprague's grandsons: guitarist Isaac Sprague, bassist Gabriel Sprague, and drummer Samuel Sprague. **May 10: The Bang!** Dance party with this local DJ collective that plays garage and 70s rock. **May 14:** TBA. **May 15: The Ted Thrasher Weapon.** Ypsilanti alternative rock band. Opening acts TBA. **May 16: Pinnacle Entertainment.** Ann Arbor–Detroit hip-hop collective. Opening act is **Sayitainttone,** a Detroit hip-hop MC who appears on the Grammy-nominated compilation *Kanye West Presents G.O.O.D. Music: Cruel Summer.* Advance tickets: $10 ($15 at the door). **May 17:** TBA. **May 21: "Loquacious."** A showcase of local and area hip-hop MCs TBA. **May 22: Steve Moakler.** Nashville-based indie pop-rock singer-songwriter originally from Pittsburgh. Opening act is **Cody Fry,** a soul-inflected pop-rock singer-songwriter from Nashville. Advance tickets: $10 ($12 at the door). **May 23: Loose Teeth.** Local rock quartet fronted by singer-songwriter Greg McIntosh. Opening acts TBA. **May 24: Paulina Jayne.** Detroit country-pop singer-songwriter. Opening acts are **Aeris,** a Detroit post-hardcore pop-rock quintet, and the **Mike Leslie Band,** a blues-infected Detroit pop-rock trio fronted by singer-songwriter and guitarist Leslie. **May 28: Jack Spivey.** Local pop-rock singer-songwriter who tonight celebrates the release of his new CD, *Carolina.* **May 29: Eyes Once Mine.** Dexter post-hardcore metal band. Opening acts are the metal band **Of Cities,** the Ypsilanti posthardcore metal septet **Dressed as Lions,** the Ypsilanti posthardcore quartet **Decades of Flies,** the Ypsilanti metalcore sextet **My Perfect Nightmare,** and the Lansing postindustrial quartet **Terror Network. May 30: Mike Hard.** Detroit noise-rock garage band led by former God Bullies and Thrall frontman Hard. Opening acts TBA. **May 31:** TBA.

The Blue Nile
221 E. Washington 998–4746

This downtown restaurant features live music, Fri. & Sat. 6–10 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Fri. & Sat.: Louis Johnson.** Jazz standards and New Ethiopian jazz by this local pianist and saxophonist. On Saturdays he is joined by bassist Will Austin, and other friends TBA.

The Cavern Club
210 S. First St. 913–8890

This downtown basement club in the Celebration Cellars banquet space features occasional live music, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. There is also sometimes music in the street-level Millennium Club and the 2nd-floor Circus Bar & Billiards. Also, karaoke in the Circus, Wed.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. **May 10: Killer Flamingos.** Rock 'n' roll covers and originals by this popular veteran band from Dearborn. In the Millennium Club.

Common Cup
1511 Washtenaw 327–6914

This coffeehouse run by the University Lutheran Chapel features live music and other entertainment occasional Fri. No cover, no dancing. May schedule TBA.

Conor O'Neill's
31[illegible] S. Main 665–2968

Downtown Irish pub with live music Sun. 7:30–10 p.m. and Tues., Thurs., & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., and a DJ on Fri. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Traditional Irish Session.** All invited to join or listen to an instrumental jam session. **Every Tues.: Shaun Garth Walker.** Local singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **May 1: Don & Dickie.** Duo of guitarist Don Sicheneder and banjoist Rich Delcamp from the popular local roots music sextet Dragon Wagon. **May 3: Joshua & Jeremy Sprague.** An eclectic mix of rock covers by these local brothers. **May 8: Reeds & Steel.** Acoustic jazz-inflected blues and blues-rock by the duo of singer and harmonica player Michael May and guitarist Jimmy Alter. **May 10: Michael May & the Messarounds.** See Bar Louie. **May 15: Mossy Moran.** Traditional singer from Ireland. **May 17: Social Bones.** Detroit country-rock jam band. **May 22: Reeds & Steel.** See above. **May 24: The Hip Replacements.** Local septet that plays classic rock, soul, and blues. **May 29: Don & Dickie.** See above. **May 31: Acoustic Rewind.** 80s and 90s pop covers by this Detroit acoustic duo.

Crazy Wisdom Tea Room
114 S. Main 665–9468

Tea room above Crazy Wisdom Bookstore features live music, Fri. & Sat. 8:30–10:30 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **May 2: Spencer Michaud.** Local singer-songwriter and acoustic guitarist whose music blends Motown, Tin Pan Alley, and folk. **May 3: The Potter's Field.** Americana roots duo of singer-songwriters Rochelle Clark of Chelsea and John Natiw of Canton. **May 9: Kaylyn Pace.** Contemporary country-rock singer-songwriter from Dexter who has a forthcoming CD. **May 10: Joel Palmer.** Veteran Detroit singer-guitarist whose repertoire includes vintage and original blues, swing, and folk-style tunes. **May 16: Jason Dennie & John Holk.** Detroit-area acoustic duo of Dennie, a highly regarded local acoustic fingerstyle guitarist who plays an eclectic brand of folk-based roots music in the tradition of John Fahey, Leo Kottke, and Michael Hedges, and Holk, an Ann Arbor–bred psychedelic honky-tonk singer-songwriter who's best known as the frontman of the Sequins. **May 17: John Churchville.** Local tabla player, accompanied by several musician friends, who plays Indian classical, light classical, fusion, and folk music. **May 23: Zander Michigan.** The stage name of Detroit pop-folk singer-songwriter Zander Melidis. **May 24: Dr. Mike & the Sea Monkeys.** Whitmore Lake acoustic duo whose quirky, funny, and sometimes heartrending blues and folk-style originals are based on work of the award-winning humorist and nationally syndicated columnist Mike Ball. **May 30: Hoodang.** See Wolverine. **May 31: Mark Dignam.** Introspective pop-folk by this Dublin-bred singer-songwriter who now lives in Pittsburgh.

Creekside Grill and Bar
5827 Jackson Rd. 827–2737

The intimate basement bar in this restaurant in Scio Township features occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **May 25: II-V-I Orchestra.** Veteran local big band, led by saxophonist David Swain, that plays late-1930s swing and 1940s R&B. With vocalist Patty O'Connor. Tonight's program focuses on the music of the iconic postwar pop and film composer-arranger **Henry Mancini.** 6:30–9 p.m.

The Elks Lodge
220 Sunset 761–7172

This basement venue in the James L. Crawford Elks Lodge rec room features soul food and live jazz, blues, & rock Fri. & Sat. 7–10 p.m. Also, DJs, Fri. & Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, usually no cover except for DJ shows. Members and guests welcome. **Every Sat.:** TBA. **May 2: Jonathan Taylor/Jonathan Lucas Duo.** Local duo of pianist Taylor and drummer Lucas plays everything from Thelonious Monk and McCoy Tyner covers to original compositions and improvised performances. **May 9: Ella Campbell Quartet.** Everything from straight-ahead swing to Latin and hip-hop-infused originals by this ensemble led by saxophonist Campbell, an Ann Arbor native and MSU grad. **May 16: Racine/Rolston/Allen/Royer.** Local jazz ensemble of trumpeter Ingrid Racine, electric bassist Ben Rolston, keyboardist Keaton Royer, and drummer Julian Allen that draws its inspiration from the likes of Sun Ra, Tribe Records, and Detroit techno producer Carl Craig. **May 23: Malena Quartet.** Modern and Latin jazz originals by this local ensemble led by saxophonist Maria Navedo, a recent MSU grad. **May 30: Davy Lazar Quintet.** Modern jazz ensemble led by Detroit trumpeter Lazar and featuring saxophonist Chris Tabaczynski and up-and-coming Detroit drummer Kayvon Gordon.

Guy Hollerin's
3600 Plymouth Rd. 769–9800

The restaurant in the North Campus Holiday Inn features music on Sat. & occasional Fri., 8 p.m.–midnight. Cover, dancing. If tickets are available in advance, they are sold at the restaurant. **May 3: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** See Mash. **May 10: Jimmy McCarty & Mystery Train.** Popular rockabilly and roots-rock band led by veteran Detroit guitarist McCarty. **May 17: Laith Al-Saadi Trio.** An eclectic mix of roots Americana, classic rock, and blues, including many originals, by a jazz-tinged, jam-oriented trio led by local singer-guitarist Al-Saadi. With drummer Skeeto Valdez and bassist David Stearns. **May 24:** No music. **May 31: The Bluescasters.** Intense, low-down blues and blues-rock by this veteran local quartet.

The Habitat Lounge
3050 Jackson Rd. 665–3636

The lounge at Weber's Inn features dance bands Tues.–Thurs. 8:45 p.m.–12:30 a.m. and Fri. & Sat. 8:45 p.m.–1:30 a.m., along with jazz Sun. 7–11 p.m. Also, a DJ Mon., 7 p.m.–midnight, and solo pianists Tues.–Sun., 6–8:45 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Sun.: James Cornelison Quartet.** Jazz originals and standards by this U-M music student ensemble led by electric guitarist Cornelison. **May 1: Scotty Alexander Duo.** Pop-rock covers by everyone from Elton John and Lionel Richie to Matchbox Twenty and Kings of Leon by this duo led by Brighton singer-pianist Alexander. **May 2 & 3: Chateau.** Veteran pop dance band. **May 6–8: Acoustic Rewind.** See Conor O'Neill's. **May 9 & 10: First Call.** Detroit R&B dance sextet. **May 13–15: Scotty Alexander Duo.** See above. **May 16 & 17: The Front Men.** Detroit vintage-rock band. **May 20–22: Slice.** East Lansing pop dance quartet. **May 23 & 24: Phoenix Theory.** Detroit Top 40 dance band featuring members of Scoot Magoo and 50 Amp Fuse. **May 27–29: Green-Eyed Soul.** Windsor pop trio fronted by vocalists Melissa Danese and Fallon Deluca. **May 30 & 31: Emerging Soul.** Versatile Livonia dance sextet whose repertoire includes rock, R&B, funk, and pop favorites.

LIVE
102 S. First St. 623–1443

This lounge features live music Fri. happy hour 6:30–9 p.m. and occasional evenings. Also, DJs, Mon. & Thurs.–Sat. 10 p.m.–2 a.m. No cover (except Fri. & Sat. after 11 p.m.), dancing. **May 2: FUBAR.** 6-piece band led by guitarist Randy Tessier and featuring vocalist Sophia Hanifi. Their repertoire is an eclectic mix of originals by Hanifi and Tessier and covers of everyone from the Everly Brothers, the Kinks, and the Yardbirds to Miles Davis and Steve Earle. 6:30–9 p.m. **May 9: Mike Smith & His Cadillac Cowboys.** Veteran local country band, led by singer-guitarist Smith, whose repertoire includes classic country, western swing, and boogie-woogie. 6:30–9 p.m. **May 16: The Terraplanes.** Local band led by singer-guitarist Jerry Mack that plays a mix of houserocking blues, uptown swing, soulful R&B, and roots rock. 6:30–9 p.m. **May 23: The Rhythm Machines.** A mix of classic rock, soul, funk, R&B, and jazz fusion by the veteran Detroit-area quartet of guitarists Julius O'Steen and Terry Gordinier, bassist Ben Piner, and drummer John Marion. With guest drummer Muruga Booker, a renowned percussionist who has played with the likes of George Clinton, Jerry Garcia, and Weather Report. 6–9:30 p.m. **May 30: Drivin' Sideways.** Veteran local band fueled by Pontiac Pete Ferguson's alternately soulful and ornery vocals. Their country-based repertoire still features lots of classic honky-tonk, but they also cover everyone from Chuck Berry and Johnny Burnette to the Beatles and James Brown. With guitarist George Bedard, bassist Pat Prouty, drummer Mark Newbound, and keyboardist Jim King. 6:30–9 p.m.

Mash
211 E. Washington 222–4095

This lounge in the basement of the Blue Tractor tavern features live music Wed. 9 p.m.–midnight and Thurs.–Sat., & occasional other nights, 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Weekend happy hour music, 6–9 p.m. Dancing, no cover. **May 1: Dan Dahsoulman & Jake Lives Band.** Local septet fronted by vocalist Dan "Dahsoulman" Carter that plays a mix of R&B, soul, and blues. **May 2: Robert Johnson.** Solo acoustic folk and blues by this Northville singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **May 2: The Terraplanes.** See Live. **May 3: The Wine Bar Duo.** Vintage Americana and contemporary songs of all sorts by the local duo of pianist Jacob Sayraf and vocalist and ukulele player William Bennett. 6–9 p.m. **May 3: The Bluescasters.** See Guy Hollerin's. **May 7: "Abud: A Bard."** The stage name of James Abud, metro Detroit singer-songwriter and guitarist whose one-man shows blend covers of jazz, pop, and Broadway classics with folk-fusion originals that reflect an eclectic mix of influences, from Arabic and American folk music to rock, jazz, classical, bluegrass, and musical theater. The mu-

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Tracey MacDonald
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May 8 9 10

"The Bob and Tom Show"
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CBS Early Show
E! Network "Celebrity Slimdowns"
First time at the Comedy Showcase

Jef Brannan
May 16 & 17
SHOWTIME
"Evening at the Improv"
Guitar swingin' joke slingin' fun with this politically incorrect comedian

Sal Demilio
May 23 & 24
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Ricarlo Flanagan
May 30 & 31
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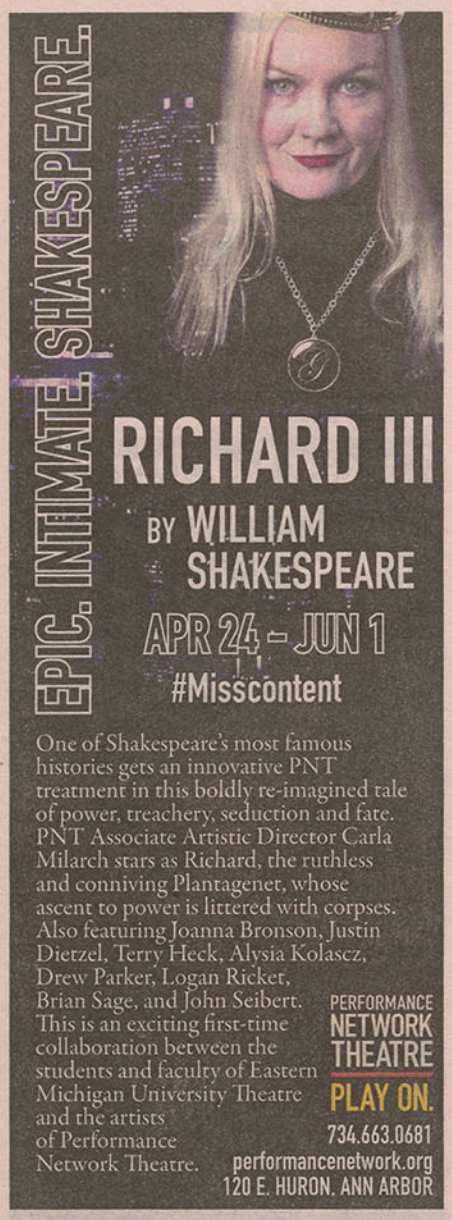
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120 E. HURON. ANN ARBOR

Music at Nightspots

sic is interspersed with zesty jokes and hilarious tales of life as a musician and music researcher. **May 8: The Whistle Stop Revue.** Port Huron acoustic folk-rock string trio whose music draws on a wide range of influences from blues and bluegrass to reggae and jazz. **May 9: Michael May Duo.** Duo led by local blues and blues-rock singer-harpist May. 6–9 p.m. **May 9: Nobody's Business.** Redford blues and blues-rock band. **May 10: Laura Rain.** Solo performance by this Detroit blues and soul singer. 6–9 p.m. **May 10: Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies.** Local roots-rock quartet, led by former Starlight Drifters singer-guitarist Mack, whose repertoire includes originals and rockabilly, early rock 'n' roll, western swing, and hillbilly bop covers. **May 14: Michael May Duo.** See above. **May 15: Broken Arrow Blues Band.** Detroit-area blues band. **May 16: Jay Fry.** Rock 'n' roll, blues, and folk covers and originals by this local singer-guitarist. 6–9 p.m. **May 16: The Canastas.** Local quintet fronted by vocalist Cammila Albertson that plays vintage jump blues, rockabilly, rock 'n' roll, and ska. **May 17: Abigail Stauffer.** Local singer-songwriter with a rich, resonant alto voice who's known for her piercing, emotionally direct pop-folk and pop-rock songs. She released her debut CD, *Alone to Dream,* in 2011, and she recently completed her sophomore effort. 6–9 p.m. **May 17: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** Detroit blues band fronted by young blues vocalist and virtuoso guitarist Canas. **May 21: The Whistle Stop Revue.** See above. **May 22: The HouseRockers.** Local party quintet that plays 60s rock, blues, and soul. **May 23: Rifken.** Local acoustic pop cover band led by percussionist Nick Rifken, a recent U-M music school grad. 6–9 p.m. **May 23: The Shelter Dogs.** Local self-styled "lounge-a-billy" trio that plays vintage swing, rockabilly, and blues. With upright bassist Todd Perkins, guitarist Pete Bullard, and drummer Tom Twiss. **May 24: Mike Vial.** Howell pop-rock singer-songwriter. 6–9 p.m. **May 24: Laura Rain & the Caesars.** An intense fusion of funk, soul, and blues by this Detroit quintet fronted by vocalist Rain. **May 28: Laura Rain.** See above. **May 29: Cetan Clawson.** Monroe blues-rock band. **May 30: Abigail Stauffer.** See above. 6–9 p.m. **May 30: Dan Dahsoulman & Jake Lives Band.** See above. **May 31: The Wine Bar Duo.** See above. 6–9 p.m. **May 31: The Chris Canas Blues Revolution.** See above.

Melange Subterranean Bistro
314 S. Main **222–0202**

The lounge in this downtown restaurant features live music Thurs., 8–11 p.m. Also, DJs Fri. & Sat., 10 p.m.–2 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **Every Thurs.: Doug Horn Trio.** Classic jazz from the American songbook by this ensemble led by local alto saxophonist Horn. With various drop-in guests TBA.

METAL Design & Fabrication Studio
220 Felch **(800) 613–6385**

This west-side metal working studio and gallery features very occasional live music. Cover, dancing. **May 10: The Hentchmen.** Rare local performance by this classy veteran Detroit-area garage-rock party trio that specializes in fast, short guitar-and-organ driven odes to cars, girls, and good times. Opening act is **Kelly Jean Caldwell,** a local folk-rock singer-songwriter. Hosted by WCBN-FM. 7–11 p.m.

The Necto
516 E. Liberty **994–5436**

This popular dance club features local and national DJs 6 nights a week, Mon.–Sat., 9 p.m.–2 a.m. Also, occasional live shows. Cover, dancing.

Old Town
122 W. Liberty **662–9291**

This downtown corner bar features live music Sun. & occasional other nights, 8–10 p.m. No dancing, no cover. The performers are usually accompanied by various drop-in friends. **May 4: John Latini.** Acoustic rock-based originals by this popular veteran local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter. His latest CD is *Lovers, Liars & Losers.* **May 11: Danny Kline.** Veteran local alt-country singer-songwriter and guitarist. **May 18: Dave Boutette.** Veteran local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. **May 25: Jason Dennie Trio.** Acoustic trio led by Dennie, a highly regarded local acoustic fingerstyle guitarist and mandolinist who plays an eclectic brand of folk-based music in the tradition of John Fahey, Leo Kottke, and Michael Hedges.

Oz's Music Environment
1920 Packard **662–8283**

This storefront next to Oz's music store features live music most Tues. 7:30–9:30 p.m. Cover by donation, no dancing. **May. 6: "Songwriters Open Mike."** All songwriters invited. Hosted by Jim Novak. **May. 27: "Ukulele Jam."** Musicians of all ability levels invited.

The Ravens Club
207 S. Main **214–0400**

This downtown bar & grill features live music, Sun. 8–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing. **Every Sun.: Heather Black Project.** Vintage jazz and blues by an ensemble led by Heather Schwartz, a talented local singer whose vocal style also reflects gospel, R&B, soul, and hip-hop influences.

Rush Street
314 S. Main **913–0330**

This martini lounge features nightly DJs, along with live music, Fri. 5–8 p.m., Sun. 10 p.m.–2 a.m., and occasional other nights. Dancing, no cover. **Every Fri. & Sun.: Legendary Wings.** Local jazz quintet that focuses on dynamic, challenging, and less commonly heard music from the modern jazz repertoire interspersed with free improvisation. The usual lineup features saxophonists Dan Bennett and Tim Haldeman, Fender Rhodes electric pianist Matt Endahl, bassist Jordan Schug, and drummer Nick Collins.

Silvio's Organic Pizza
715 North University **214–6666**

This campus-area restaurant features live music Thurs. & Sun. 6–8 p.m., Fri. 7–9 p.m., and occasional other nights. Swing dancing to a DJ on May 14 & 28, 11 p.m.–12:30 a.m. No cover, no dancing (except Wed.). **Every Thurs.: Neal Anderson Quintet.** Local jazz ensemble led by trumpeter Anderson. **Every Sun.: Will Mefford.** Improvisations on jazz standards by this local pianist. **May 2: Sonicrain.** Straight-ahead jazz by this Novi-based ensemble. **May 9: Isosceles.** Versatile local acoustic trio that plays a mix of jazz, swing, country, pop, and folk. With vocalist Shekinah Errington, bassist Tim Berla, and guitarist Jim Cooney. Tonight's show showcases original tunes from its new CD, *Triangle.* **May 16: Magdalen Fossum.** Local 12-year-old pop-folk singer-songwriter and ukulele player who was named Open Stage Performer of the Year by the Ark in 2011. **May 23: Steve Rich & Tim Prosser.** The local duo of singer-guitarist Rich and singer-songwriter and "mandolin maniac" Prosser performs a mix of acoustic originals and traditional music. Also, a guest musician TBA. **May 30: David C. Bloom & Friends.** Chelsea jazz vocal trio that plays jazz standards and ballads from the 30s through the 50s, along with retro-lounge classics and mashups.

Tap Room
201 W. Michigan
Ypsilanti **482–5320**

This popular downtown Ypsilanti tavern features live music Thurs. 8 p.m.–midnight, and occasional Fri. & Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m. Also, DJ with Latin dance music, Wed. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. No cover, dancing. **Every Thurs.: Electric Open Mike.** Hosted by **The Martindales,** a local band led by singer-guitarist Brian Brickley that plays blues and rock covers and originals. All electric musicians invited. **May 24: Ann Arbor Music Center Adult Blues Band.** Ensembles of Ann Arbor Music Center adult students perform covers of John Lee Hooker, Howlin' Wolf, Muddy Waters, and other postwar blues singers. 5–7:30 p.m.

Vinology
110 S. Main **222–9841**

This wine bar and restaurant features live jazz the last 3 Thurs. each month 8:30–11 p.m. No cover, no dancing (unless otherwise noted). **May 15: Nicole New.** An eclectic mix of jazz with pop and bluegrass flavors by this trio fronted by New, a Detroit vocalist known for her rich tone and rhythmic phrasing. **May 22: Edie Herrold Trio.** Mainstream jazz by this local ensemble led by veteran bassist Herrold. With pianist Dale Grisa and guitarist Andy Perri. **May 29: Lenny Swanson Duet.** Local jazz duo of bassist Swanson and keyboardist Nathan Flanders.

Wolverine State Brewing Co.
2019 W. Stadium **369–2990**

This west-side brewpub features live music, Tues. 8 p.m.–midnight & some weekends, 8:30 p.m.–12:15 a.m. Cover, dancing. **May 3: The Speedbumps.** Acclaimed northeastern Ohio Americana acoustic jam band fronted by the soulful, rootsy crooner Erik Urycki. The band's instrumentation embraces banjo, ukulele, cello, and saxophone. **May 6: Salmagundi.** Local band that plays classic horn-powered, soul-injected Memphis-style rock 'n' roll. **May 10: Corndaddy.** Local alt-country band led by singer-songwriters Kevin Brown and Jud Branam whose music filters early 70s country-rock through the influences of bluegrass, power pop, and British Invasion bombast. **May 13: Abigail Stauffer.** See Mash. **May 15: The Low Voltage.** The local pop-folk singer-songwriter duo of Colin Simpson and Emily Fox. **May 20: The Equinox Jazz Trio.** Jazz standards by this local piano trio featuring vocalist Kim Vox. **May 24: Hoodang.** Wry, pungent alt-country by this local ensemble led by singer-songwriter and guitarist David Rossiter that describes its influences as "English murder ballads, hardcore American country music, and careful-you'll-cut-yourself electric blues." With guitarist Dave Keeney, bassist Ralph McKee, and percussionist John Crawford, often along with guest vocalist Sophia Hanifi. The band recently released the superb CD *Blissfield.* **May 27: GFK Trio.** Funky, soulful organ-based jazz by this Detroit ensemble, With organist Scott Kulik, drummer Eric Fillip, and guitarist Dan Gruszka. **May 31: Medicinal Groove.** See Yellow Barn.

Woodruff's
36 E. Cross
Ypsilanti **483–2800**

The management of this rock club in Ypsilanti's Depot Town, which closed at the end of April, is looking to reopen in a new venue sometime this spring.

World of Beer
1300 South University **913–2430**

This campus-area bar & grill features live music Fri. & Sat. 9 p.m.–1 a.m. Dancing, no cover. **May 2: Painted White.** Detroit acoustic duo of singer Holly Schiavulli and guitarist Garret Schmittling whose repertoire includes classic funk, pop dance hits, classic and modern rock, and even a few country songs. **May 3: Karley Davidson.** Young Detroit-area pop R&B singer-songwriter. **May 9: Cheech & Laura.** Acoustic pop sibling duo of Detroit singer-guitarists Laura and Cheech Rodriguez. **May 10: Ryan Neal.** Covers and originals by this versatile pop singer-guitarist. **May 16: Rifken.** See Mash. **May 17: Al Smith.** Local 19-year-old singer-songwriter whose music draws on an eclectic array of resources from folk, rock, blues, and jazz. **May 23: The Takeaways.** Local band led by Shaun Garth Walker, a singer-guitarist with an eclectic, wide-ranging repertoire. **May 24: Logan White Duo.** Duo led by local pop-folk singer-guitarist White. **May 30: Dan Mazur Duo.** Pop and rock covers by a duo led by this Dearborn singer-guitarist. **May 31: Jay Fry.** Local rock 'n' roll singer-songwriter and guitarist.

The Yellow Barn
416 W. Huron **Ouryellowbarn.com**

This performance venue just west of downtown features live music most Fri. & Sat. & occasional other nights, 8–11 p.m. Cover, dancing. **May 1: Miss Massive Snowflake.** Progressive pop trio from Portland (OR) led by singer-songwriter Shane de Leon. **May 2: Chris DuPont.** Local acoustic folk-rock singer-songwriter known for his distinctive tenor, unconventional guitar work, and clever lyrics. Opening acts are the rural Wisconsin pop-folk duo **Daniel & the Lion,** the Grand Rapids rock trio **Valentiger,** and the Grand Rapids acoustic folk-rock trio **Bennett. May 10: "Bizarre Dance."** Live music by **The Gilmore Boys** (8–9 p.m.), an upstate New York acoustic pop-folk trio, and an open mike (9–10 p.m.) in which participants are given 45 seconds to 5 minutes to do anything they like, from sharing a rap or staging a play sword fight to sharing a hair technique or a new idea you'd like to propose. Followed by **"After Hours"** (10 p.m.–3 a.m.), a dance party with a DJ. **May 17: Kavazabava.** Mount Pleasant Balkan-Klezmer, Gypsy, Balkan, and other East European folk music. Opening act is a performance by the **Yellow Barn Dance Class. May 23: Chris Michels & Dede Alderman.** Celtic-inflected soul jazz by the Traverse City duo of singer-songwriter and percussionist Alderman and singer-guitarist Michels. Opening act is **Abigail Stauffer** (see Mash). **May 29: Nevada Color.** Pittsburgh indie pop-rock quintet. Opening acts are **Jaami Baig,** a local pop-rock singer-songwriter whose influences range from the Strokes to Adele, and **Evening in Red,** a Milan alternative rock trio. **May 30: The Medicinal Groove.** Progressive funk jam dance sextet from Traverse City. Opening act is **The Saturday Giant,** the stage name of Columbus ambient pop musician Philip Cogley.

Zal Gaz Grotto
2070 W. Stadium **663–1202**

This Masonic social and service club hosts live music Sat. 9:30 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Sun. 5–8 p.m., Mon. 7:30–10:15 p.m., Tues. 5:30–8:30 p.m., & occasional other nights. Cover, dancing. **Every Sun.: Phil Ogilvie's Rhythm Kings.** This local 10-piece big band is one of the few to specialize in the old-time big-band music of the late 1920s and early 1930s associated with Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver. Arrangements by the renowned early-jazz pianist James Dapogny and tubaist Chris Smith. **Every Mon.: Paul Keller Orchestra.** Award-winning 15-piece big band led by bassist Keller and featuring vocalist Sarah D'Angelo and occasional guest vocalists. Also, each week features a middle set by a guest student ensemble. **Every Tues.: Paul Klinger's Easy Street Jazz Band.** Dixieland and swing by this local ensemble led by saxophonist and trumpeter Klinger. **May 3:** TBA. **May 10:** TBA. **May 17:** TBA. **May 24:** TBA. **May 31: Ground Zero.** Local 80s hardcore band. Opening acts are **Borax,** a revival of the uncompromisingly silly mid-90s local quintet that blends lurching rhythms, warped hardcore tunes, occasional lapses into tastefully executed lounge-trash, and lost-love/horror-movie lyrics, and **Blammo,** a veteran local sextet that plays a blend of wickedly humorous, socially observant originals and choice punk covers by the likes of Patti Smith, the Dead Kennedys, X, and the Ramones.

May Events

We want to know about your event!

Please send a press release (no phone calls, please).

- **By email:** events@aaobserver.com
- **By phone:** 769–3175
- **By mail:** Katie Whitney, Calendar Editor, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48103
- **By fax:** 769–3375
- **After-hours drop box:** left side of the Observer's front door facing Winewood

What gets in?

We give priority to Ann Arbor events. Always include a contact person's telephone number. Please try to submit materials as early as possible; items submitted after the deadline (the tenth day of the preceding month) might not get in.

Next month's deadline:

All appropriate materials received by the tenth day of the month for the upcoming month will be used as space permits; materials submitted later might not get in (but will be added to AnnArborObserver.com).

annarborobserver.com:

An expanded, continually updated version of this calendar is available at **AnnArborObserver.com.** This calendar is updated daily. If you have an event not listed in the print calendar, or want to update a listed event, please send it and we'll post it on annarborobserver.com.

arbormail:

Get your alerts by email—send a reminder when your favorite performer, group, or special event shows up in town. Sign up at annarborobserver.com/arbormail_help.html.

★ *Denotes a free event.*

WARNING!

To save space, many recurrent events are noted only the first time they occur. This includes many weekly and biweekly events. To find a full list of events for the last Wednesday in the month, for example, readers should also check earlier Wednesday listings, especially the first Wednesday.

www.AnnArborObserver.com

Siamak da Varani and David Barker star in *The Great God Pan*, presented by Redbud Productions at Kerrytown Concert House May 29–31.

FILMS

73 Film Screenings — *John Hinchey & Katie Whitney*

GALLERIES

79 Exhibit Openings — *Katie Whitney*
The Collages of Brenda Slomovits — *Stephanie Douglass*

EVENTS REVIEWS

71 Lovers, Liars, and Lunatics
Purple Rose's Spring Comedy Festival — *Keith Taylor*

76 Bruce Mills
Autism, language, and family — *Keith Taylor*

85 Style Beyond Style
Drummer Tom Rainey & saxophonist Ingrid Laubrock — *Piotr Michalowski*

86 Tech Twilight
Nerdlicious fun — *Frances Kai-Hwa Wang*

89 A Winter's Journey
Baritone Jesse Blumberg and pianist Martin Katz — *arwulf arwulf*

95 The Howlin' Brothers
Hot time in the old town — *James M. Manheim*

MUSIC AT NIGHTSPOTS

64 Nightspots — *John Hinchey*
The Blues at Mash — *James M. Manheim*

1 THURSDAY

★37th Annual May Day Celebration: Ann Arbor Morris. All invited to celebrate this traditional holiday with outdoor singing and boisterous traditional English dances. *6–7 a.m., U-M Nichols Arboretum (meet at the lookout above the main valley near Geddes Rd. gate). Free. Email a2morris@umich.edu to confirm. 717–1659.*

★"Spring Migration Walk in Nichols Arboretum": Washtenaw Audubon Society. *Every Thurs., Apr. 3–May 29, and May 17.* All invited to join club members for a walk through the Arb to look for resident birds and early migrants, which begin arriving in earnest toward the end of April. *8–11 a.m., meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of Riverview off Geddes. Free. 994–3569.*

★Adults Thursday: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs. except May 8.* Activities, primarily for seniors, begin at 10 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute exercise program led by Maria Farquhar. An 11 a.m. **Current Events** discussion group led by Heather Dombey is followed at noon by a homemade dairy lunch ($3 with reservation, $4 without reservation and for nonseniors) and at 1 p.m. by a cultural or educational program. *May 1:* Recital by local harpist **Laurel Federbush.** *May 15:* Recital by the mother-daughter soprano duo of U-M voice professor **Caroline Helton** and Pioneer High student **Hava Kaplan**. *May 22:* Talk by **Lauren Zinn,** a local interfaith minister who has some rabbinic training. *May 29:* Lecture-demo with some audience participation by **JCC hip-hop instructor Julius Theophilus.** *10 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free, except as noted. 971–0990.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Wild Swan Theater. *May 1–4.* This award-winning local children's theater presents local playwright Jeff Duncan's nonmusical adaptation of Frank Baum's classic tale of Dorothy's journey to the Emerald City. Geared toward kids in grades K–5. As with all Wild Swan productions, the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language. Audio description and backstage "touch" tours are available for blind audience members by

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The Ann Arbor Public Schools Educational Foundation is here to build stronger schools, better equip students, and bring our community together in support of educational excellence. Through innovative teacher grants, student scholarships, and major initiatives, this community has awarded more than $1 million to our schools, and we are just getting started. **Please join us in our mission today.**

ANN ARBOR PUBLIC SCHOOLS Educational Foundation

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may 2014 highlights
Ann Arbor District Library

PHOTO COURTESY PERKINS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

May 2 Exhibit Opening

Karleen Shafer

John Corey Whaley

May 16 Film

PHOTO CREDIT: PHOEBE JONES

Daniel Jones

Matthew Ball

Bruce Conforth

Events will take place in the Downtown Library Multi-Purpose Room, unless otherwise noted.

Friday **2**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

EXHIBIT RECEPTION • ***Child in a Strange Country: Helen Keller and the History of Education for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired*** • All are invited to the official opening of this new, interactive, traveling exhibit from the Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind, on display through June 25
DOWNTOWN AADL THIRD FLOOR

Sunday **4**
2:00 - 3:30 pm

Child in a Strange Country OR Why Is Helen Keller at the Water Pump the Only Person Who Was Blind That Most Americans Know? with **Micheal A. Hudson**, Director, Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind • **GRADE 6 - ADULT**

Tuesday **6**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Gardening with Gusto with local landscape designer and Master Gardener **Karleen Shafer** • **MALLETTS CREEK BRANCH**

Wednesday **7**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Sensory Communication: Relaying and Receiving Information Through Touch • U-M Performing Arts Technology Professor **Sile O'Modhrain** discusses touch and communication in conjunction with the exhibit *Child in a Strange Country* • **GRADE 6 - ADULT**

Wednesday **7**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Technology To Support Learning • Staci Bockmann, founder of Learning Outside the Lines, discusses how to use the iPad and computer for academics • **PITTSFIELD BRANCH**

Thursday **8**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Running for Public Office 101 • The **Ann Arbor Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.** and the **League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area** present a discussion with panelists who have successfully run for public office

Wednesday **14**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

Author John Corey Whaley, a "Top 5 Under 25 Author" The author of the Printz Award-winning book ***Where Things Come Back*** discusses and signs his new book ***Noggin***. Books will be for sale • **PITTSFIELD BRANCH • GRADE 6 - ADULT**

Thursday **15**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

FOSTER CARE MONTH • Foster Care In Washtenaw County • A panel of representatives from several service organizations discuss innovative partnerships that address the needs of kids in foster care

Friday **16**
7:00 - 9:00 pm

SOUND & VISION FILM SERIES • *Saturday Night Fever* **(RATED R)** This new Friday evening summer film series focuses on music and pop culture—popcorn included! • **DT 4TH FL. MEETING ROOM**

Sunday **18**
3:00 - 4:30 pm

Daniel Jones, Editor of the NYT Column *Modern Love* The editor of the wildly popular *Modern Love* column in the Sunday NYT discusses his book—one that draws from the 50,000 tales of love that have crossed his desk. Books will be for sale

Tuesday **20**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

CONCERT • Boogie Woogie Pianist Matthew Ball brings his old-time piano fun to this family-friendly concert

Thursday **22**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

South Africa and the Legacy of Apartheid • Clague Middle School teacher **Jeff Gaynor** shares his experiences from his five weeks in S. Africa, with a look at the history, people and government

Thursday **29**
7:00 - 8:30 pm

The Arrival of B.B. King discussed by **Dr. Bruce Conforth**, Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame founding curator and U-M Professor of American Culture

Friday **30**
7:00 - 9:00 pm

SOUND & VISION FILM SERIES • *A Band Called Death* **(RATED PG)** This 2012 documentary focuses on the Detroit band Death

Saturday **31**
1:00 - 3:00 pm

Ann Arbor Science & Skeptics: 3rd Annual Scientists Fair Scientists answer your questions about Climate Change, Big Bang, Exploring Mars, Nuclear Power and more • **GRADE 9 - ADULT**

For more information: 327.4555 or aadl.org

prearrangement. *Note:* The 10 a.m. performances are sold out. *10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. (May 1 & 2) & 2 p.m. (May 3 & 4), WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $15 (kids, $10; lap pass for kids age 2 & under, $3) in advance and at the door. 995–0530.*

★Story Time: Bookbound. *Every Tues. & Thurs.* Linda Zimmer reads stories for kids age 6 & under. *10:30 a.m. (Thurs.) & 6 p.m. (Tues.), Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

Duplicate Bridge: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon., Wed., & Thurs.* All ages invited to play non-sanctioned (Mon.) and ACBL-sanctioned (Wed. & Thurs.) duplicate bridge. Bring a partner. *Noon–3:45 p.m. (Wed. & Thurs.) & 12:30–4 p.m. (Mon.), Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $7 (members, $6) on Wed. & Thurs., $3 (members, $2) on Mon. 794–6250.*

★"A Course in Miracles": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. *Every Thurs.* Local social worker Lorraine Coburn leads a study group on this popular Foundation for Inner Peace metaphysical book. *Noon–1:30 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. Free. 646–6585.*

★Gifts of Art: U-M Hospitals. *Every Thurs.* Performances by area musicians. *May 1:* Guitjo & cello duo **Acoustic Eidolon.** *May 8:* Contemporary folk & more by **San, Emily & Jacob,** a trio of veteran folk singer-songwriter San Slomovits, his daughter, violinist Emily Slomovits, and bassist Jacob Warren. *May 15:* Classical music by violinist **Gabe Bolkosky** and pianist **Michele Cooker.** *May 22:* Flute trio **Iridescent Flutes.** *May 29:* Fingerstyle guitarist and ukulele player **Gerald Ross.** *12:10 p.m., U-M Hospital Main Lobby, 1500 E. Medical Center Dr. (off Fuller). Free. 936–ARTS.*

Social Mah-Jongg: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Mon & Thurs.* All ages invited to play this intricate game that uses colorful tiles. Lunch available at 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m. ($5.50; age 60 & over, $3; reservations required). *1–2:30 p.m. (Thurs.) & 1–3:30 p.m. (Mon.), Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

Heidelberg Charity Poker Room. *Daily.* Texas Hold 'Em and blackjack for players of all levels. Also, Hold 'Em tournaments at 7 p.m. Wed., Fri., & Sat. Free dinner, 5–6 p.m., and other nightly specials. Net proceeds donated to a different charity each week. *5 p.m.–2 a.m., Heidelberg (3rd floor), 215 N. Main. $10–$500 buy-in to play poker, $2–$20 per hand blackjack, $40 buy-in for Hold 'Em tournaments. 834–2237.*

Magic: The Gathering Tournament: Get Your Game On. *Every Sun. & Tues.–Fri.* All invited to compete in tournaments of this popular collectible card game using standard constructed (Fri.), modern constructed (Thurs.), Elder Dragon Highlander (Tues.), Legacy (Wed.), and booster draft (Sun.) decks. Prizes. Bring your own cards (except Sun.). *6 p.m. (Tues.–Fri.) & 1 p.m. (Sun.), Get Your Game On, 310 S. State. $5 (Tues., free; Sun., $15 includes cards). 786–3746.*

★Annual Banquet: Huron Hills Lapidary & Mineral Society. Silent auction of minerals. Followed at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck dinner (bring a dish to pass) and at 7 p.m. by **"Mineral Collecting in New Mexico,"** a talk by club member Bill Barr. *6 p.m., West Side United Methodist Church social hall, 900 S. Seventh St. Free. 665–5574.*

"Mead Tasting with B Nectar": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Creamery staff and representatives from this Ferndale meadery discuss and offer taste samples of pairings of Zingerman's cheeses with B Nectar meads. *6–8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $45. 929–0500.*

★"Ann Arbor East Group Run": Running Fit. *Every Thurs.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 3010 Washtenaw. Free. 548–6299.*

★"Ann Arbor Thursday Northeast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Thurs.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 15–25 miles, through some of the area's hillier terrain. Other Thurs. ride: **"Spring Unfolding Ride"** *(10 a.m., Gallup Park Canoe Livery, 3000 Fuller Rd. west side of Huron Pkwy., 971–5763, 663–5060),* a slow-paced ride, 15–25 miles, through North Campus, Barton Hills, and scenic roads north of town. Also, on May 8 only, **"Moonshadow Ride"** *(9 p.m., east end of Mitchell Field parking lot, Fuller Rd., 424–4802),* slow-, moderate-, and fast-paced rides, 8–24 miles, along the Gallup Park pathway. *6:30 p.m., Wheels in Motion, 3400 Washtenaw. Free. 678–8297.*

★Ann Arbor Go Club. *Every Sun. & Thurs.* Players of all skill levels invited to play what's regarded as the world's most difficult board game. No partner necessary. Boards and stones provided. *7 p.m.–midnight (Thurs.) & 1–6 p.m. (Sun.), Espresso Royale, 322 S. State. Free. umich.edu/~goclub.*

ACBL Bridge: Ann Arbor City Club. *Every Thurs.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. No partner required. *7 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. $7. 761–6691.*

★**"Emerging Writers: Publishing Options": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local young adult fiction writer Lara Zielin and short story writer Margaret Yang discuss the differences between and comparative advantages of traditional and indie or self-publishing. For adult and teen (grade 6 & up) fiction and nonfiction writers. Also, Zielin and Yang host an open house for writers to connect with each other and/or work on their projects on May 15. *7–8:45 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3334 Traver at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4555.*

"The Foreigner": Encore Musical Theatre Company. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Apr 10–May 4.* Paul Hopper directs this local professional company in Larry Shue's witty Obie-winning farce about a shy Englishman who goes on a fishing vacation in rural Georgia and pretends to be from an exotic, unspecified foreign country and to speak no English. However, the locals all begin to confide in the mysterious stranger, unleashing a blackly hilarious series of events involving the devious local minister, his redneck associate, and even the Ku Klux Klan. Cast: Adrian Diffey, Fran Potasnik, Lori Pelham, Jess Alexander, Kathryn Mahard, Elliott Styles, Todd St. George. *7 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets $32 (seniors age 60 & older, $30; youth age 17 & under and groups of 10 or more, $28) in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. Tickets are $6 less for Thurs. & all matinees. 268–6200.*

★**Comhaltas.** *Every Thurs.* All invited to join members of this local chapter of the Detroit Irish Music Association for an informal evening playing traditional Irish music on various instruments. Lessons offered. *7:30–9:30 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. Free. 255–5310.*

Israeli Dancing: Jewish Community Center. *Every Thurs.* Dance instructor Cheryl Felt and DJ Amnon Steiner lead a variety of Israeli dances to recorded music. Easy dances and oldies the first hour, followed by intermediate dances and requests. Beginners welcome. New dances taught each week. Wear soft-soled shoes. *7:30–10 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $5 (students, free). 971–0990.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. *Every Thurs.–Sun., Apr. 24–June 1.* Julia Glander directs Shakespeare's history play, a masterful portrait of evil whose fratricidal protagonist savagely hacks his way to the throne, in a radically re-imagined production that explores themes of gender, power, and governance in the setting of a distant yet ominous future. Performance Network artistic director Carla Milarch stars as Richard. The cast also includes Brian Sage, John Seibert, Lynnae Lehfeldt, Drew Parker, Joanna Bronson, Terry Heck, Logan Ricket, Justin Dietzel, and Alysia Kolascz. *7:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sun.), & 3 p.m. (May 10 & 24), Performance Network, 120 E. Huron. Preview tickets: whatever you can afford to pay (Apr. 24), $22 (Apr. 25 & 27 and May 1), and $30 (Apr. 26). May 2 opening night tickets: $39 & $41 includes reception. After May 2: $27 & $29 (Thurs.), $32 & $34 (Fri. & Sun.), $25 & $27 (Sat. matinee), $39 & $41 (Sat. eve.). $3 discount for seniors age 60 & over. Tickets available in advance at performancenetwork.org & by phone, and at the door. $10 student discount in advance, half-price student tickets at the door only. For reservations, call 663–0681; to charge by phone, call 663–0696.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. *Every Wed.–Sun., through May 24. See review, p. 70.* Guy Sanville directs the world premiere of several short comedies that explore the nature of love, loss, revenge, and renewal. Includes plays by Jeff Daniels, David MacGregor, Carey Crim, and others. *Note:* adult language and content. *8 p.m. (Wed.–Sat.), 3 p.m. (Wed. & Sat.), & 2 p.m. (Sun.), Purple Rose Theatre, 137 Park St., Chelsea. Tickets $27 (Wed. & Thurs.), $37 (Fri. eves. & weekend matinees), & $42 (Sat. eves.) in advance at purplerosetheatre.org, and by phone. 433–7673.*

"Suspicions: An Investigation of Monologues": From Around Here Productions. *May 1–3.* Brian Cox directs local actors in this collection of 12 monologues, each written by a different local writer, that revolve around 2 alarming incidents in the history of a small town: the disappearance of a baby and a deadly fire. Cast: David Galido, Pat Collins, Mary Elizabeth Parker, David Angus, Margie Bovie, Peter Knox, Ann Stofflet, Holly Kreag, Linnae Caurdy, Kelly Rose Voigt, Marc Holland, Denene Pollock, Bob Galardi. *8 p.m., The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Tickets $12 in advance at fromaroundhereproductions.org; $15 at the door. 944–2787.*

David Dyer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 1–3.* This polished Grand Rapids comic, a contributing writer to *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon,* features his unexpected takes on everything from marriage and raising kids to current events and ear hair. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. $7 (Thurs.) & $10 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating*

Ann Arbor Historical Foundation
presents

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By Susan Wineberg and Patrick McCauley

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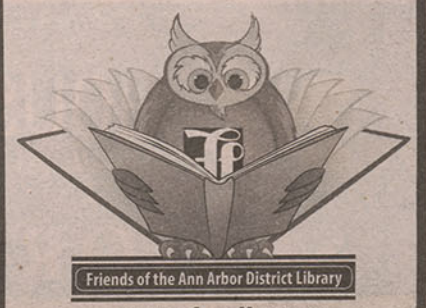

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MAY 2014 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY 10 & 11: MOTHER'S DAY PLANT SALE & FUNDRAISER
A large selection of hanging baskets and containers—perfect for mom—filled with a variety of colors and textures grown and designed by Matthaei-Nichols staff and volunteers. All proceeds benefit the Arb and Gardens. **Sat. & Sun., 10 am-4:30. Free admission.**

MAY 17 & 18: KITCHEN FAVORITES SALE & FUNDRAISER
Herbs, herb containers, and heirloom vegetables. All proceeds support Cultivating Community and the Campus Farm. Also, Herb Study Group and Michigan Gourd Society on hand with information on herbs and gourds. **Sat. & Sun., 10 am-4:30. Free admission.**

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in advance, $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.

2 FRIDAY

★**"Senior Living Week Expo": Housing Bureau for Seniors.** The 16th annual Senior Living & Housing Awareness Week kicks off with a day of talks exploring a variety of housing issues for seniors. Also, more than 60 exhibits by senior housing and care providers. For a complete schedule of workshops (preregistration) and open houses May 2–10 at senior housing communities around the county, see med.umich.edu/seniors/events. *8:30 a.m.–3 p.m., Marriott Ypsilanti at Eagle Crest, 1275 S. Huron. Free. 998–9336.*

★**"Joe's Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Fri.* Slow-paced rides, 20 miles or more, to the Coney Island in Whitmore Lake for a breakfast or early lunch. *9 a.m., Olson Park, Dhu Varren at Pontiac Trail. Free. 476–4944, 996–9461.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Wild Swan Theater. See 1 Thursday. *Note:* Today's 10 a.m. performance is sold out. 10 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

★**Chime Concert: Kerrytown Shops.** *Every Wed., Fri., & Sat.* All invited to play one of 100 songs, with melodies transcribed in numbers, on the 17-bell chime's numbered keys. Ambitious players can add chords. *Noon–12:30 p.m. (Wed. & Fri.) & 10:30–11 a.m. (Sat.), Kerrytown Market & Shops. Free. 369–3107.*

★**"Rabbi Levy's Lunch and Learn": Temple Beth Emeth.** *May 2, 9, 23, & 30.* Rabbi Robert Levy leads an informal discussion about the intersection between religion and science. Bring a bag lunch. *12:30–1:30 p.m., TBE Adult Lounge, 2309 Packard. Free. 665–4744.*

★**Bridge: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Mon. & Fri.* All seniors invited to play bridge. Some experience necessary. *12:30–4:30 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**ESL Conversation Group: Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon., Tues., Wed., & Fri. except May 26.* All levels of English speakers invited for conversation. *1–2:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch (Fri.), 3090 E. Eisenhower between Stone School & Packard; 1–2:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch (Mon.), 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd.; & 7–8:30 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch (Tues. & Wed.), 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–4200.*

U-M Softball vs. Wisconsin. *May 2–4. 6 p.m. (May 2), 2 p.m. (May 3), & 1 p.m. (May 4), Alumni Field (behind Ray Fisher Stadium), S. State at Hoover. $6 & $8 (groups of 10 or more, $3 each; U-M students, faculty, & staff, free). 764–0247.*

First Friday Shabbat: Ann Arbor Jewish Cultural Society. All invited for dinner, preceded by a brief Shabbat observance with songs, candle lighting, wine and challah, and discussion on a theme TBA. Children welcome. *6:30–9 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10 (family, $25). Reservations required at jewishculturalsociety.org. 975–9872.*

★**Euchre Night: St. Thomas Lutheran Church.** All invited to play. *7 p.m., Freedom Child Care Center, 8753 Pleasant Lake Rd. just west of Parker Rd. Free. 663–7511.*

Dances of Universal Peace (Sufi Dancing). All invited to join in song, chant, and circle dances in joyous affirmation of the unity of the world's spiritual traditions. *7–9 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill. $5 requested donation. 663–2037.*

"8th Annual Bee on Board for Literacy Spelling Bee": Family Learning Institute Fundraiser. All invited to watch as many as 20 3-member teams representing local organizations, nonprofits, and businesses vie for a trophy. (All encouraged to enter a team.) Emcee is U-M drama professor Malcolm Tulip. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and music by the Community High Jazz Band. *7 p.m., Washtenaw Community College Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $40 in advance only by emailing info@familylearninginstitute.org or by phone; $50 at the door. 995–6816.*

★**Christopher Moore: Nicola's Books.** This best-selling writer reads from ***The Serpent of Venice,*** his new comic novel inspired by Shakespeare's *Othello* and *The Merchant of Venice* and Poe's "The Cask of Amontillado." The plot concerns 3 prominent Venetians who scheme to rid themselves of an obnoxious envoy from Britain. Novelist Carl Hiaasen calls Moore "one of the cleverest, naughtiest writers alive." Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Child in a Strange Country: Helen Keller and the History of Education for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired": Ann Arbor District Library.** An opening reception for this AADL exhibit (see Galleries) features welcoming remarks by AADL director Josie Parker and Museum of the American Printing House for the Blind (Louisville) director Michael Hudson, who also gives a **talk on the exhibit** in the AADL multipurpose room at 2

SEAN CARTER

Lovers, Liars, and Lunatics

Purple Rose's Spring Comedy Festival

When Jeff Daniels founded the Purple Rose Theatre in Chelsea, he was often quoted about his desire "to build an audience for live theater" where one had not existed previously and where some thought such an audience might never exist. As I looked around during the quick and polished miniplays that are part of the Spring Comedy Festival—this year entitled *Lovers, Liars, and Lunatics,* a title broad enough to encompass anything the six playwrights might care to write about—it is very clear that Daniels has succeeded. The audience is excited and engaged. People laugh easily and are ready to cry when the appropriate heartstrings are plucked. They forgive moments that are less engaging or barely funny because they know that their patience will be rewarded. Daniels' *The Anatomy of an Argument,* for instance, seems formulaic and perhaps just a bit too easy, but this audience has good reason to run with Daniels, and director Guy Sanville has an impeccable sense of timing that can rescue any comedy.

Most of the comedies in this year's group feature the quick wordplay and the sentimental turns that have shaped short plays in regional theater for a couple hundred years. They range from the broad sexual comedy of Kirsten Knisley's *The Arrangement,* where a young couple's hookup is challenged by the onset of genuine emotion, to the physical slapstick of Daniels' other contribution, *The Guitar Lesson.* Yes, indeed, it turns on the horrors parents can inflict on themselves and their children when they begin the process of learning music.

Perhaps my favorite play of the evening was David MacGregor's absurdist black comedy, *Just Desserts.* In this play, an office nonentity, played brilliantly by Michelle Mountain, decides to discover who is stealing food from the company refrigerator, and to exact her revenge. It is a situation most of us can recognize, but here things go to an extreme conclusion. Mountain does a lovely job turning her mousy nobody into a loveable monster.

Mountain also has a later turn that I think is worth the price of admission. In the second half of the evening, the audience discovers that the three playlets by Carey Crim, none of them longer than ten minutes, are linked, even though in performance they're separated by other work. In the second of these, a widower played by regional stalwart Tom Whalen interviews potential dates at a café. Mountain plays all of the dates, changing character in a quick second by tossing her hair and rapidly altering her voice or actions. Her performance in that one short scene is a tour de force, and her audience clearly appreciated the accomplishment.

The Spring Comedy Festival at the Purple Rose Theatre runs through May 24.

—Keith Taylor

p.m. on May 4. Also, music by harpist Deborah Gabrion and refreshments. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL 3rd floor, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"The Tempest": St. Augustine's Homeschool Enrichment Program Campion Players. *May 2–4.* Henry Russell directs a cast of area homeschooled teens in Shakespeare's culminating work, a visionary romance set on a magical island ruled by the enigmatic but benevolent sorcerer Prospero and his beautiful daughter Miranda. Prospero is in fact the exiled duke of Milan, who conjures a storm that shipwrecks his old enemies upon his island. The Tempest is filled with verse and song (including the famous "Full fathom five") and contains some of Shakespeare's most gorgeously haunting poetry. With original incidental music by Dan Heffernan. *7 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sun.), Whitmore Lake High School, 8877 Whitmore Lake Rd. $5 (family, $25) in advance via email to campionplayers@gmail.com and at the door. 239–3476.*

★**Advanced Study Group: Rudolf Steiner Study Circle of Ann Arbor.** *May 2, 16, & 30.* All invited to join an ongoing discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *An Outline of Occult Science.* Familiarity with Steiner's basic ideas is helpful. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House (May 2 & 30), 1923 Geddes, & location TBA (May 16). Free. 944–4903.*

"Rent": Pioneer High School Theater Guild. *Apr. 25–27 and May 2 & 4.* Ryan Vasquez directs students in Jonathan Larson's Tony- and Pulitzer Prize–winning 1996 musical, based on Puccini's *La Bohème,* about an impoverished community of artists in the East Village living under the shadow of AIDS. It features an inventive rock score with intricate choral work and dexterous lyrics. *7:30 p.m. (Apr. 25 & 26 and May 2) & 2 p.m. (Apr. 27 & May 4), PHS, 601 W. Stadium. Tickets $15 (students, seniors age 65 & over, and PHS staff, $10) in advance at showtix4u.com. ptguild.org.*

Tad Weed: Webster United Church of Christ. Performance by this veteran local jazz pianist who is known for his command of a wide range of styles, from blues and bebop to funk and avant-garde. *8 p.m., Webster Church, Webster Church Rd. at Farrell (between Joy & North Territorial), Webster Twp. $20 suggested donation. 426–5115.*

"Celebrating the Feminine Virtuoso": Concerto delle Donne (Academy of Early Music). This ensemble of leading female early musicians from Michigan performs works written for the original Concerto delle Donne, a 16th-century ensemble of highly trained female musicians. The program includes works by Monteverdi, Marenzio, Gesualdo, Aleotti, Cozzolani, and others. Musicians include vocalists Jennifer Ellis Kampani, Deborah Friauff, and Lorna Young Hildebrandt and instrumentalists Kiri Tollaksen, Debra Lonergan, and Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lecture on the program. *8 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $25 (members, $22; students, $5) in advance at AcademyOfEarlyMusic.org, Nicola's Books (2513 Jackson), & by phone, and at the door. 478–6421.*

Heloisa Fernandes: Kerrytown Concert House. This up-and-coming Brazilian pianist fuses conser-

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vatory jazz with popular and traditional Brazilian music into a unique style balancing delicate elegance with driving, joyous rhythms. Tonight's program features Fernandes's original compositions and works by Villa-Lobos and Antonio Carlos Jobim. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

Don White: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). This veteran singer-songwriter from Lynn, MA, writes sharp-witted songs about everyday life that blend pathos, humor, and biting satire, and his live shows feature a lot of impromptu storytelling and comedy. His fans include Christine Lavin and Livingston Taylor, and he's released several acclaimed CDs, including the recent *Winning Streak.* Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $17 (kids age 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance at greenwoodcoffeehouse.org and at the door. 665–8558.*

"Life Is a Dream": Brass Tacks Ensemble. *Apr. 17–20, 25, & 26 and May 2 & 3 (different locations).* Isaac Ellis directs this local troupe in his adaptation of Pedro Calderon de la Barca's 17th-century Spanish Baroque masterpiece, a philosophical allegory about the human condition. The action revolves around a fictional prince of Poland who is imprisoned as an infant by his father, the king, in response to a dire astrological prophecy. When the king has a change of heart and frees his son, the prince goes on a rampage, and the king imprisons him again, persuading him that his short-lived freedom was all a dream. Jeff Miller, David Widmayer, Lauren Megan McCarthy, Joseph McDonald, Mouse Courtois, Stevert Davenport, Jessica Feathers, Cydney Heed, and Jenna Hinton. *8 p.m., Riverside Arts Center (Apr. 17–20), 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti, and Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Studio (Apr. 26 & 27 and May 2 & 3), 322 W. Ann. Tickets $15 (students, $5) in advance via email to BTEreservations@gmail.com and at the door. 904–7049.*

"The Foreigner": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Suspicions: An Investigation of Monologues": From Around Here Productions. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

David Dyer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Friday Night Swing (& Blues)": Ann Arbor Swing Dance Association/Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Fri.* Lindy hop, East Coast swing, Charleston, and Balboa dancing to music spun by DJs. Followed at 11:30 p.m. by blues dancing. No partner needed. Preceded at 8 p.m. by beginning lessons. *9 p.m.–1:30 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main. $5 (students with ID, $3; $1 discount for AACTMAD members) includes lessons. 417–9857.*

3 SATURDAY

★**"Dexter Breakfast Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Sat.* Beginner-friendly slow-paced (22 miles) and moderate/fast-paced (30–100 miles) round-trip rides to Dexter, Chelsea, and beyond, with stops at the Dexter Bakery or Zou Zou's and Pierce's in Chelsea. A very popular ride. *Note:* Riders should be prepared to take care of themselves on all AABTS rides. Carry a water bottle, a spare tire or tube, a pump, a cell phone, and snacks. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 546–1047 (May 3 ride), 996–4985 (May 10), 274–6350 (May 17), 604–0696 (May 24), 994–6340 (May 31).*

★**"School to Prison Pipeline: What Needs to be Done?": Gray Panthers of Huron Valley.** Panel discussion with Dispute Resolution Center executive director Belinda Dulin, Washtenaw County sheriff Jerry Clayton, and Ann Arbor Concerned Citizens for Justice member Shirley Beckley. Discussion follows. *9:45 a.m.–noon, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 973–5593.*

★**Volunteer Stewardship Workday: Ann Arbor Natural Area Preservation Division.** *May 3, 10, 17, & 18.* All invited to help maintain the natural areas in various city parks. Wear long pants and closed-toe shoes; tools, snacks, & know-how provided. Minors must be accompanied by an adult or obtain a release form in advance. *May 3:* **16th Annual Garlic Mustard Weed-Out Day,** 10 a.m.–1 p.m., in several parks, including Argo Nature Area *(meet at Argo Canoe Livery, 1055 Longshore),* Bird Hills Nature Area *(meet at the Bird Rd. entrance),* Cedar Bend *(meet at the Island Park parking lot, Island Dr., off Maiden Ln.),* Hannah Nature Area *(meet at the end of Bath St., west of Seventh between Huron and Miller),* Huron Parkway Nature Area *(meet in front of 3470 Woodland off E. Huron River Dr.),* Miller Nature Area *(meet at the Arborview entrance just east of Wildwood),* & Leslie Woods *(meet at the entrance at the end of Upland north off Plymouth).*

Note: Most educational documentaries are listed with the daily Events.

Ann Arbor District Library. FREE. 327–4555. AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave.

May 16: **"Saturday Night Fever"** (John Badham, 1977). Drama starring a young John Travolta as a Brooklyn youth whose only joy is disco dancing. Popcorn served. 7–9 p.m.

May 30: **"A Band Called Death"** (Mark Christopher Covino & Jeff Howlett, 2012). Documentary about Death, an obscure, early-70s Detroit proto-punk outfit, who disbanded before releasing a single album but were vindicated nearly 30 years later when their 1974 demo tape was released to much fanfare. Popcorn served. 7–9 p.m.

Ann Arbor Senior Center. 794–6250. 1320 Baldwin.

Every Mon.: **"Movie Matinee,"** with films TBA. FREE. 12:30–3 p.m.

Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. $5 suggested donation. 327–0270. 704 Airport Blvd., 8 p.m.

May 17: **"Spiritual Cinema."** Screening of a feature film or several shorts TBA with spiritual themes. Followed by discussion.

Jewel Heart Buddhist Center. FREE. 994–3387. Jewel Heart (1129 Oak Valley Dr. between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth), 7 p.m.

May 30: **"Zen"** (Banmei Takahashi, 2011). Absorbing portrait of Eihei Dogen, the 13th-century Japanese priest regarded as the founder of the Soto school of Zen Buddhism. Discussion follows.

Jewish Film Festival. Annual touring festival of documentary and feature films on Jewish themes. Tickets $10 (festival pass, $100) in advance and at the door. 971–0990. Michigan Theater, various times.

May 4: **"Lost Town"** (Richard Goldgewicht & Jeremy Goldscheider, 2012). Documentary about one man's obsessive search to get closer to his deceased father by uncovering the story of his family's town of Trochenbrod, the Ukrainian shtetl obliterated by the Nazis that was the only all-Jewish town ever to exist outside of Palestine. 1 p.m. **"The Upside Down Book"** (Matthew White, 2013). Documentary about the story behind a copy of *Mein Kampf* brought home from Germany to Boston by a Jewish American soldier. Preceded by the documentary short **"Reporting on the Times; The New York Times and the Holocaust"** (Emily Harrold, 2012). 4 p.m. **"The Ceremony"** (Avi Weissblei & Eliran Knoller, 2013). An 80-year-old colonel is preparing to command the national ceremony on Israel's Independence Day—as he has done annually for more than 30 years—when a week before the ceremony, disaster strikes unexpectedly. Hebrew, subtitles. 8 p.m.

May 5: **"No Place on Earth"** (Janet Tobias, 2013). Documentary about a cave exploration in Ukraine that leads to the unearthing of a story of WWII survivors who once found shelter in it. English, German, & Yiddish; subtitles. 2 p.m. **"The Zigzag Kid"** (Vincent Bal, 2012). A delinquent boy, the son of a police inspector, hooks up with a master burglar and enters a world of disguises, chases, French chansons, and a mysterious woman whose secrets will change his life forever. Dutch, French, & English; subtitles. 8 p.m.

May 6: **"The Third Half"** (Darko Mitrevski, 2012). Determined to build the best football club in Macedonia, Dimitry hires a German coach to galvanize his ragtag team, but when the first Nazi tanks roll through the city and the beautiful daughter of a local banker elopes with his star player, all his plans must change. German, Ladino, Bulgarian, Serbian, & English; subtitles. 2 p.m. **"Blumenthal"** (Seth Fisher, 2013). Comedy about the relatives of a legendary playwright who made a career parodying his family and died laughing at one of his own jokes. 5 p.m. **"The Attack"** (Ziad Doueiri, 2012). An Arab surgeon living in Tel Aviv discovers a dark secret about his wife in the aftermath of a suicide bombing. Hebrew & Arabic, subtitles. 8 p.m.

May 7: **"Next Year in Jerusalem"** (David Gaynes, 2013). Documentary about 8 nursing home residents given one last great adventure, a trip to Israel. 2 p.m. **"Bethlehem"** (Yuval Adler, 2013). Drama about the complex relationship between an Israeli Secret Service officer and his teenage Palestinian informant. Hebrew & Arabic, subtitles. 5 p.m. **"Quality Balls: The David Steinberg Story"** (Barry Avrich, 2013). Documentary about the influential Canadian standup comic best known for the biblical sermonettes that led to the cancellation of the *Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour.* 8 p.m.

May 8: **"Out in the Dark"** (Michael Mayer, 2012). Drama about the love affair between two men on opposite sides of the Middle East conflict, a Palestinian student and an Israeli lawyer. Arabic & Hebrew, subtitles. 2 p.m. **"The Pin"** (Naomi Jaye, 2013). Two young people experience love and loss while in hiding during WWII. After a life of regret, the young man, now old, is faced with an opportunity for redemption. Yiddish, subtitles. 5 p.m. **"The Sturgeon Queens"** (Julie Cohen, 2014), a 45-minute documentary about a 100-year-old Lower East Side lox and herring emporium, and **"Never a Bystander"** (Evelyn Ruth Neuhaus, 2014), a 30-minute documentary in which Ann Arborite Irene Butter, a U-M School of Public Health professor emerita, talks about her experiences as a Holocaust survivor. 8 p.m.

Michigan Theater Foundation. Unless there is a live show in the main theater, 2 or 3 different films are shown, usually twice, almost every night. For complete, updated schedules, see michtheater.org or call 668–TIME. Tickets (unless otherwise noted): $10 (children under 12, students with ID, seniors age 55 & older, & U.S. veterans, $8; MTF members, $7.50; films before 6 p.m., $7). Michigan Theater (unless otherwise noted), times TBA unless otherwise noted.

Apr. 25–May 1: **"The Lunchbox"** (Ritesh Batra, 2013). A mistaken delivery in Mumbai's famously efficient lunch delivery system connects a young housewife to an older man. Irrfan Khan. Hindi & English, subtitles.

May 3: **"Nymphomaniac I & II"** (Lars von Trier, 2013). A self-diagnosed nymphomaniac recounts her erotic experiences to the man who saved her after a beating. Charlotte Gainsbourg, Stellan Skarsgard.

May 4: **"Champagne"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1928). Silent drama about a spoiled heiress who defies her father by running off to marry her lover. With live organ accompaniment. 5 p.m.

May 6: **"Vertigo"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1958). Haunting, dreamlike mystery thriller that stars James Stewart as a retired police detective who is afraid of heights. Kim Novak. 7 p.m.

May 7: **"Elaine Stritch: Shoot Me"** (Chiemi Karasawa, 2013). Documentary about the well-known Broadway star who played Alec Baldwin's mother on *30 Rock.*

Opens May 9: **"Only Lovers Left Alive"** (Jim Jarmusch, 2013). Romantic vampire drama about a vampire musician whose centuries-old love affair is tested by the arrival of his lover's impulsive younger sister. Tilda Swinton.

May 10, 12, & 14: **"On My Way"** (Emmanuelle Bercot, 2013). Unable to face her failing relationship and her failing business, a restaurateur takes her grandson on a road trip. Catherine Deneuve. French, subtitles.

May 11: **"North by Northwest"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1959). Classic thriller about an ad exec mistaken for a government agent who's relentlessly pursued halfway across the country. Cary Grant. Eva Marie Saint. 5 p.m.

May 11–13: **"Ernest & Celestine"** (Stéphane Aubier, Vincent Patar, & Benjamin Renner; 2012). Animated story of the unlikely friendship between a bear and a young mouse.

May 13: **"Psycho"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1960). Classic suspense thriller set in a motel run by a peculiar mama's boy. Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh. 5 p.m.

May 14: **"The Cutting Edge"** (Paul Michael Glaser, 1992). Drama about an unlikely ice skating duo—an injured former ice hockey star and a temperamental diva—preparing for the 1992 Olympics. Followed by a brief presentation by Kristen and Phil Schuyten, physical therapists specializing in performing arts rehabilitation, on the physics of ice skating and the science behind high-level athletic training. 7 p.m.

Opens May 16: **"Finding Vivian Maier"** (John Maloof & Charlie Siskel, 2013). Documentary about the late nanny whose cache of 100,000 photographs, discovered posthumously, has earned her a reputation as one of the most accomplished street photographers.

May 18: **"My Neighbor Totoro"** (Hayao Miyazaki, 1988). Animated tale about a family that moves to the countryside and meets a magical creature. Won Japan's 1988 Best Picture award. Dubbed into English. Kids 12 & under, free. 1:30 p.m.

May 18: **"The Manxman"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1929). Newly restored silent drama about lifelong friends on the Isle of Man, a fisherman and a lawyer, who are both attracted to the same woman. With live organ accompaniment. 4 p.m.

May 18–20: **"Alan Partridge"** (Declan Lowney, 2013). Comedy about a famous radio DJ who works with the police to defuse a potentially violent siege.

May 20: **"Family Plot"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1976). Comedy-thriller about a con artist and her private investigator boyfriend who run into a couple of serial kidnappers. Barbara Harris, Bruce Dern, Karen Black. 5 p.m.

May 20 & 22: **"Just a Sigh"** (Jérôme Bonnell, 2013). Romance about an aging Irish professor who falls for a young actress he meets on a train to Paris. Gabriel Byrne.

May 22: **"The Milky Way"** (Chantal Molnar and Jennifer Davidson, 2014). Documentary about the value of breast-feeding and the ways our culture undermines it. $10 in advance at tugg.com/events/8567 and at the door. The screening takes place only if enough advance tickets are sold. 7 p.m.

Opens May 23: **"Belle"** (Amma Asante, 2013). The late 18th-century illegitimate mixed-race daughter of a Royal Navy Admiral is raised by her aristocratic great uncle and ends up influencing the decision to abolish slavery in England.

Opens May 23: **"Locke"** (Steven Knight, 2013). A construction foreman drives to London while trying to settle personal and professional problems on his cell phone and having imaginary conversations with his long-deceased father.

May 25: **"Blackmail"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1929). Newly restored silent thriller about a Scotland Yard detective who discovers that a murder he is investigating was committed by his girlfriend while defending herself from a rapist. With live organ accompaniment. 1:30 p.m.

May 27: **"The Birds"** (Alfred Hitchcock, 1963). Eerie thriller about hordes of bloodthirsty sparrows, gulls, and crows plaguing a small California town. Not for the squeamish. Stars Tippi Hedren, Rod Taylor, Suzanne Pleshette, Jessica Tandy. 7 p.m.

May 29: **"Age of Champions"** (Christopher Rufo, 2011). Award-winning documentary about the travails and triumphs of athletes chasing gold at the National Senior Olympics. Producer Tad Ochwat is on hand to introduce the film and answer questions after the screening. $15 ($50 includes 5:15 p.m. VIP reception and reserved seating) in advance at ticketweb.com, med.umich.edu/geriatrics/BHS, and by calling 998–9350; and at the door. 7 p.m.

WCBN-FM. FREE admission. 763–3500. Arbor Brewing Company (114 E. Washington), 8:30 p.m.

May 13: **"Pump Up the Volume"** (Allan Moyle, 1990). Comic drama about an alienated high school student who starts an FM pirate radio station from his bedroom transmitter in the basement of his parents' house. Christian Slater.

May 10: **Barton Nature Area** *(9 a.m.–noon, meet in the Barton Dam parking lot, Huron River Dr. from Bird Rd. via Newport Rd.)* to help remove spotted knapweed, bittercress, and other invasive species, or **Greenview Nature Area** *(9 a.m.–noon, across from Barnard Rd. on Greenview Rd. off Scio Church Rd. west of S. Seventh St.)* to remove invasive shrubs and spread woodchips on the trails, and **Black Pond Woods** *(1–4 p.m., meet in the Leslie Science Center parking lot, 1831 Traver Rd.)* to help remove invasive shrubs. *May 17:* **Furstenberg Nature Area Native Plant Garden** *(noon–3 p.m., meet in the parking lot off Fuller Rd. across from Huron High School)* to join master gardener Aunita Erskine for her annual spring cleanup and botanical walk. *May 18:* **Bluffs Nature Area** *(noon–3 p.m., meet in front of 220 Sunset)* to remove garlic mustard, dame's rocket, and other spring invasives. *Various times & locations. Free. 794–6627.*

Waterloo Natural History Association. *May 3, 10, & 18. May 3 (10 a.m. and 12:30 & 2:30 p.m.):* **"Faerie House."** All invited to design and construct a fairie or gnome home using a large array of natural materials. Kids must be accompanied by a parent. Space limited; preregistration required. $10. *May 10 (1:30–3 p.m.):* **"Incredible Edibles."** WNHA wild foods expert Tom Jameson leads a 90-minute hike to learn about edible wild plants available locally and then prepares some wild food dishes (with recipes) to sample. *May 18 (2–3 p.m.):* **"Michigan Mammals."** Howell Nature Center Wild Wonders Wildlife Park staff display and discuss the characteristics of several of its Michigan wild mammals. *Various times, Eddy Discovery Center lower parking lot (except as noted), Bush Rd. (west off Pierce Rd. from I-94 exit 157), Chelsea. $2 (families, $5) except as noted. Space limited; preregistration required. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★7th Annual Farm Festival: Braun & Helmer. A tractor & engine show, toy show, large flea market, petting farm, kids pedal pull, tractor pull, live auction, and more. Lunch available. Bake sale. *10 a.m.–4 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free admission; donations accepted. 368–1733.*

★Spanish Playgroup: Manzanitas Spanish Immersion Preschool. Spanish stories and songs geared toward kids ages 6 months to 5 years, accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. *10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Manzanitas, 511 Miller. Free. (Park in the church lot off Chapin.) 369–6563.*

★Storytime: Nicola's Books. *Every Sat.* An experienced storyteller spins yarns for kids age 7 & under. Also, on May 10 *only*, the Huron Valley Humane Society brings adoptable pets to a storytime that includes activities and crafts. The May 10 storytime is geared toward kids ages 2–5. *11 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Storytime: Literati Bookstore. *Every Sat.* 15-minute storytime geared toward very young children. *11 a.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★Children's Storytime: Barnes & Noble. *Every Sat.* Storytelling programs and occasional craft activities for kids age 3 & up. *11 a.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★"Dynamite DNA": U-M Natural History Museum. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Hands-on 20-minute in-

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VISIONS2014

What's New in Technology and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired

WEDNESDAY, MAY 14 • 10 AM - 3 PM
Washtenaw Community College
Morris Lawrence Building
4800 E. Huron River Dr., Ann Arbor

VISIONS is a biennial vendor fair featuring product demonstrations and presentations for people who are blind or visually impaired. Electronic readers, library services, and software are just a few of the services/products on display.

FEATURED PRESENTATIONS INCLUDE:

11 AM **The National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped**: BARD & Beyond • Don Olson of NLS

12 PM **WLBPD @ AADL** – Celebrating Its 5th Anniversary • Josie Parker, Director of the Ann Arbor District Library

1 PM **AT Guys:** What's New In Assistive Technology?

2 PM **University of Michigan Kellogg Eye Center** Sherry Day, D.O., FAAO, and Ashley Howson, M.S., OTR/L, of the Center

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Ann Arbor District Library

More information: Call the Ann Arbor District Library at 734.327.4555 or visit aadl.org.

teractive demo exploring how scientists use DNA to aid in conservation of species and to find information about evolutionary history. Participants extract DNA from a banana. Geared toward adults and kids age 5 & up. *11 a.m. (Sat.) & 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

The Lincoln Trio: Kerrytown Concert House/ Great Lakes Performing Artist Associates. This talented Chicago-based trio of violinist Desirée Ruhstrat, cellist David Cunliffe, and pianist Marta Aznavoorian performs chamber music geared toward kids and young musicians. *11 a.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15 general admission (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

U-M Natural History Museum Planetarium. *Every Sat. & Sun.* Three different audiovisual planetarium shows. ***The Sky Tonight*** (Sat. 11:30 a.m., Sat. & Sun. 1:30 & 3:30 p.m.) is an exploration of the current night sky. ***The Little Star That Could*** (Sat. 12:30 p.m.) is about an average yellow star on a search for a planet of its own to warm who meets other stars on the way and learns about the solar system. ***Mars-Quest*** (Sat. & Sun. 2:30 p.m.), narrated by Star Trek star Patrick Stewart, is about the history of the Red Planet and the reasons for our interest in it. *Various times, U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. $5. 764–0478.*

Draw Doubles: Local 101 Disc Golf Club. *Every Sat.* All invited to play disc golf at one of Hudson Mills Metropark's 24-hole courses. Beginners are paired with advanced players to create parity. Prizes. Discs can be borrowed at park office. *Noon, Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $7 per player; free for spectators. $5 vehicle entrance fee. 449–4300.*

"Professor Ray's Everyday Science": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *May 3, 4, 17, & 18.* Museum staff give family-friendly science demos. *May 3 & 4:* **"Mind Over Matter"** includes experiments with extreme states of solids, liquids, and gases. *May 17 & 18:* **"ChemMystery"** includes experiments using everyday items to create chemical reactions. *1 & 3 p.m., AAHOM Legacy Gallery, 220 E. Ann. $11 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

★**Waterloo Recreation Area.** *May 3, 10, & 24.* Programs presented by WRA park interpreter Katie McGlashen. *May 3 (2–4 p.m.):* **"Arrows Away."** All age 7 & up invited to learn basic archery skills. Equipment provided. *May 10: (2–4 p.m.):* **"Seed Paper Cards for Mom."** Using recycled paper and wildflower seeds, participants make a Mother's Day card that can be planted to grow wildflowers. *May 24 (9 a.m.):* **"Birding and Breakfast."** All invited for a light breakfast followed by a birding hike in celebration of International Migratory Bird Day. *Various times, Eddy Discovery Center, Bush Rd. (west from Pierce Rd. off I-94 exit 157), Waterloo Recreation Area, Chelsea. Free. $10 annual vehicle entrance fee. 475–3170.*

★**Dinosaur Tours: U-M Natural History Museum.** *Every Sat. & Sun.* 30-minute docent-led tour of the museum's dinosaur exhibits. *2 p.m., U-M Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free, but limited to the first 15 people to sign up for each tour. 764–0478.*

★**"Wildflower Walk": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for common and rare spring wildflowers. *2–4 p.m., Scio Woods Preserve, north side of Scio Church Rd. west of Wagner. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★**"Cute Clay Charms": Ann Arbor District Library.** Craft activity for kids in grades K–5. *2–4 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"The Dream of Inclusion": Ann Arbor Unitarian Universalist Church.** Congregation members with disabilities tell stories of overcoming barriers and offer suggestions to strengthen accessibility and inclusion. *2–4 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Church, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 769–0903.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Wild Swan Theater. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club.** *Every Sat. except May 10.* All invited to practice their juggling skills. Beginners welcome. Indoor location TBA in case of inclement weather. The club hosts a **Juggling Arts Festival** on May 10 (see listing). *2:30–5 p.m., U-M Diag. Free. 761–1115.*

★**"Improv & Theater Games: Fairy Tale Vacation Improvisation": Ann Arbor District Library.** All kids in grades K–5 invited to join in fairy tale improvisations with director Katherine Altman and the cast of the upcoming Junior Theater production of Emilio Rodriguez's comedy *Fairy Tale Family Vacation* (see 15 Thursday listing). *2:30–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Raptor Feeding": Leslie Science & Nature Center.** *Every Sat. except May 31.* LSNC volunteers feed and answer questions about the center's red-tailed hawk, peregrine falcon, and other resident raptors, who may come out of their enclosures to eat. *3–4 p.m. Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 997–1553.*

"Strum & Drum": Oz's Music Environment. *Every Sat.* Families invited to get on stage to sing and make music on a variety of instruments. Also, at 4 p.m. on May 3 only, a free **Kids Open Stage.** *3–4 p.m., Oz's, 1920 Packard. $15 per family. 662–8283.*

★**Pittsfield Open Band: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance.** *May 3 & 17.* All musicians invited for a contra dance music open jam. Bring Judi Morningstar's *The Ruffwater Fakebook,* Susan Songer's *The Portland Collection,* and Bill Matthiesen's *The Waltz Book* if you have them. *3–6 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 994–9307.*

★**"Storytelling & Computer Animation": Ann Arbor District Library.** GameStart staff show youth in grade 5 & up how to design and animate their own video game character. *3–5 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**In Good Company African American Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of ***Half of a Yellow Sun,*** Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's epic novel set during the 1960s Nigerian civil war about 2 Igbo sisters whose genteel lifestyle is disrupted by the conflict. *4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Spring Concert: Ann Arbor Youth Chorale. Performances by the 2 choirs of this ensemble of talented local youth singers. Program TBA. *4 p.m., Bethlehem United Church of Christ, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Tickets $10 (tentative) at the door. 996–4404.*

"Frog Fest": Leslie Science & Nature Center. Family-oriented program includes a walk to the pond to listen for and learn to identify frogs and toads, followed by a trip to the Critter House to meet some Michigan amphibians and watch them eat a meal. Also, games, stories, and other activities to discover more about frogs, toads, and salamanders. *7–9 p.m., Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. $8 (family, $30). Preregistration required. 997–1553.*

"The Tempest": St. Augustine's Homeschool Enrichment Program Campion Players. See 2 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Drum 4 Wellness Circle": Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth. All invited to join a drum circle. Bring a drum or use one provided. *7:30–9 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $5 suggested donation. 480–1219.*

"Milonga Picante": U-M Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *May 3 & 17.* Tango dancing to music spun by a DJ. *8 p.m.–midnight, Michigan Union Pendleton Room (May 3) & Michigan League Vandenburg Room (May 17). $10 (members, $5). umich.edu/~matc.*

1st Saturday Contra: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Martha vander Kolk calls to live music by Debbie Jackson, Paul Winder, and friends. All dances taught; no partner needed. Wear flat, smooth-sole shoes. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $10 (members, $9; students, $5). 769–1052.*

"Suspicions: An Investigation of Monologues": From Around Here Productions. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Foreigner": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Life Is a Dream": Brass Tacks Ensemble. See 2 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

David Dyer: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 1 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

★**University Lowbrow Astronomers.** *May 3, 24, & 31.* A chance to join local astronomy buffs for a look at the sky through instruments. Participants encouraged to bring their own telescopes. Visitors must turn off all electronic equipment (car radios, transmitters, phones, etc.) at the observatory entrance. Canceled if sky is overcast at sunset or if the weather is extremely inclement. *8:30 p.m.–12:30 a.m. or as long as the sky remains clear, Peach Mountain Observatory, North Territorial Rd. (about 1¼ miles west of Hudson Mills Metropark), Dexter. Free. 332–9132.*

"Serious about Salsa" Latin Dance Party: Dance Revolution. *May 3 & 17.* High-energy dance party with salsa, merengue, bachata, and cha-cha dancing to music spun by a DJ. No partner necessary. Preceded by beginner (7 p.m.) and advanced (8 p.m.) salsa lessons. *9 p.m.–1 a.m., Phoenix Center, 220 S. Main (above Elmo's). $12 (students with ID, $8). Facebook.com/A2DanceRevolution/info.*

4 SUNDAY

★**"May Morning Bird Walk": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission.** Naturalist Dan Sparks-Jackson leads a hike to look for birds. Bring binoculars and a field guide if you have them. *8–11 a.m., Trinkle Marsh at Easton Farm Preserve, Dancer Rd. just north of Trinkle Rd., Lima Twp. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

★**Horse Show: Spur of the Moment Club.** *May 4 & 18.* A judged amateur riding event featuring kids and adults riding English, western, and halter styles. Concessions. *8 a.m.–about 7 p.m., Woodbine Farm, 9976 W. Liberty (east of M-52 between Parker & Guenther), Lima Twp. Free admission. spurhorseshow.com.*

36th Annual Burns Park Run: Burns Park Elementary School PTO. Around 1,000 people ages 5–90 attend this popular family affair. This year's event offers 5-km and 10-km chip-timed races along beautiful tree-lined streets, and a half-mile kid-popular "fun run" ($5) around the park. Medals for overall male & female winners in both races, male & female masters, male & female grand masters, male & female top 3 per age group, all finishers in kindergarten, grade school, and the fun run. Proceeds benefit Burns Park PTO programs. *8:30 a.m. (5-km run), 8:40 a.m. (10-km run), & 10 a.m. (fun run), Burns Park, 1414 Wells. $22 for the 5-km & 10-km events in advance at burnsparkrun.org by May 2 (late registration, $27). racedirector@burnsparkrun.org.*

★**"Sunday Democratic Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Every Sun. Pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

35th Annual Show 'n' Shine Car Show: Ypsilanti Area Street Rods. Dozens of slick street rods, sleek muscle cars, and elegant antique autos. Also, muffler rapping contests, in which parked street rodders stomp on the gas to see whose engine is most deafening. Games, prizes, a DJ, food vendors, and a swap meet. No boom boxes or alcohol. Preceded on May 3 by a kickoff party (6–9 p.m.). *9 a.m.–4 p.m., Riverside Park near Depot Town, Ypsilanti. $2 admission; $20 to show a car. 485–7025, 320–0234, yasr.com.*

★**7th Annual Spring Ride & Festival: Bike Ypsi.** 30-, 15-, and 5-mile guided bike rides. Followed by a festival with food from local businesses. Helmets required. Free tune-ups and ride registration begin at 9 a.m. *10 a.m., Recreation Park, 1015 Congress, Ypsilanti. Free. bike.ypsi.org, 634–5593.*

★**"The Essence of Tibetan Buddhism": Jewel Heart Buddhist Center.** *Every Sun.* Talk by **Gelek Rimpoche,** an incarnate lama from Tibet who lives in Ann Arbor. *10–11 a.m., Jewel Heart Center, 1129 Oak Valley Dr. (between Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. & Ellsworth). Free. 994–3387.*

The Sunday Artisan Market. *Every Sun.* Juried market that features local handmade arts and crafts. Music. Food available. The May 4 market includes a **youth art sale,** with works by Ann Arbor Open @ Mack students. May's theme is **home & garden,** with all-ages crafts, including **"Paint a Pot. Plant a Seed."** (May 11), **"Make a Garden Creature"** (May 18), and **"Make a Flower Mobile"** (May 25). *11 a.m.–4 p.m., Farmers Market, Kerrytown. Free admission. 913–9622.*

★**Mature Singles: First Presbyterian Church.** *Every Sun.* A weekly program open to all single adults interested in contemporary Christian topics, new ideas, personal growth, and social and physical activities. *May 4:* **"Worshipping God with Hands,"** a participatory presentation by First Presbyterian resident minister Kristin Riegel on the religious use of art, music, and dance. *May 11:* **"Jesus the Refugee,"** a talk by resident minister Lal Rodawla on the conditions of refugees around the world. *May 18:* Showing of volume 5 of ***The Long Search,*** Ronald Eyre's 1977 BBC film series on world religions. In this episode, he visits Egypt to explore the experience of Islamic worship. *May 25:* All invited for **conversation.** *11 a.m., First Presbyterian Church Monteith Hall (May 4 & 11) & Curtis Room (May 18 & 25), 1432 Washtenaw. Free. 662–4466, ext. 43.*

★**H.A.C. Ultimate.** *Every Sun.* All invited to a very relaxed pickup game of this spirited team sport played with a flying disc. *Note:* Overly competitive players are politely asked to leave. *11:15 a.m., Mitchell Field, Fuller Rd. Free. hac_ultimate@ameritech.net, 846–9418.*

★**Critter House Open Hours: Leslie Science & Nature Center.** *Every Sun.* All invited to watch frogs, turtles, snakes, rabbits, and more as they hop, crawl, and slither in their homes. LSNC animals include both species native to the region and exotic animals that have been donated. *Noon–3 p.m., Leslie Science & Nature Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 997–1553.*

★**"Insect ID Day": Huron River Watershed Council.** All invited to help identify the macroinvertebrates found in last month's "River Roundup." Each child

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memoir

Bruce Mills

Autism, language, and family

KEITH MUMMA

In *An Archaeology of Yearning,* Kalamazoo College English professor Bruce Mills gives a completely loving but totally honest account of living with his autistic son, Jacob, now a young adult, and the ways Jacob's needs and actions have shaped his family. The result is a deeply moving memoir.

Jacob's inability to communicate or respond to the usual signs of affection, or to find the words to articulate his often chaotic emotions, forced his father—the man of letters—to find new ways to understand his son. Mills has had to find new metaphors for the old and essential relationship of parent and child. Partly because Jacob *is* able to express himself through art—by drawing complete and exact Disney characters and creating his own often incomprehensible scenarios for those characters—Mills understands his own search in terms of the exploration of cave art. Early in the book, he writes, "Now here I am mixing words like red ochre in my hands, lining my sounds like cave art, caught up in my own private symbols. What is happening? What is this red on my tongue?"

The bravery of *An Archaeology of Yearning* is that Mills never stops trying to answer those questions. After wonderful descriptions of Jacob's childhood, of the effect Jacob has had on his sister, of the physical exhaustion that can come from raising a child on the autism spectrum, Mills writes, "My son eludes me. And, no matter my delicate reasoning, I still panic at how little I may know him and how little he understands me. I observe, theorize, invent, and narrate in order to shoulder away his seeming indifference." How, he asks himself, "can I move beyond the tendency to conceive of autism as limitation rather than another means of knowing?"

It is Mills' yearning to understand his son that takes him down into those caves like the archaeologists who study the art there. "Yearning … requires a humble imagination, the need to dedicate all of our ways of knowing to discerning with discipline and keen sight the makers and the nature of their making … [I]t is easy to succumb to the belief that difference signals the impossibility of full and meaningful connection …"

Yet Mills continues to devote his considerable abilities to finding that connection. His effort makes this one of the bravest books you will read this year.

Bruce Mills reads from *An Archaeology of Yearning* at Literati on May 7.

—Keith Taylor

must be accompanied by an adult. *Noon–4 p.m., NEW Center, 1100 N. Main. Free. Preregistration required at hrwc.org. jfrenzel@hrwc.org; 769–5123, ext. 600.*

"Yaks All-Stars & Stripes Hockey Game": Yaks Give Back. Two hockey games by local teams. Lower-level teams play at 1 p.m., and higher-level teams play around 3 p.m. Chuck a puck, raffles, silent auction, and more. Proceeds go toward a new home for sergeant Nick Koulchar, an Iraq War vet who lost both his legs in 2008. *1–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley. $5 suggested donation. facebook.com/YaksGiveBack. 845–4237.*

Tour: Kempf House Museum. *Every Sun.* Guided tours of this restored 19th-century Greek Revival home, named for the family of German American musicians who occupied it circa 1900. *1–4 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Free; donations accepted. 994–4898.*

★"Kids Art Fair": Ann Arbor District Library. *Apr. 27 & 30 and May 4.* All kids in grades 3–8 invited to submit artwork to be included in a juried Kids Art Fair at the Townie Street Party on July 14. Bring samples of your work and be prepared to talk to judges. *1–3 p.m. (Apr. 27 & May 4) & 5–7 p.m. (Apr. 30), AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

U-M Detroit Observatory. Half-hour docent-guided tours of photographs and artifacts in this restored 19th-century observatory museum. Also, a chance to pull the rope and rotate the telescope dome. *1–4 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. $5 suggested donation (U-M students, free). 764–3482.*

★"Doris Duke's Shangri La: Architecture, Landscape, and Islamic Art": UMMA. Docent-guided tours of the current exhibit of ceramics, textiles, paintings, tile panels, architectural elements, photographs, and drawings by Islamic artists from tobacco heiress Duke's extensive collection. *1 & 2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★"#CheckMeOut: Women in Computer Science": Ann Arbor District Library. Members of Women in Computer Science @ EMU show young women interested in computer science the basics of HTML and web design. *1–3 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★"Comic Artists Forum": Ann Arbor District Library. Salt Lake City comic artist and illustrator **Brandon Dayton,** creator of the award-winning mini-comic *Green Monk,* discusses practical strategies for assessing your current drawing abilities and specific exercises and drills to help you improve. Participants also work on their own comics; materials provided. For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *1–3 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Henry & Mudge": Theatreworks USA (Michigan Theater Foundation Not Just for Kids Series). This renowned New York City–based children's theater troupe returns to the Michigan Theater to present its new musical based on Cynthia Rylant's series of best-selling stories about a lonely young boy and his best friend, a big, slobbery, 180-pound canine. Geared toward kids in grades preK–4. *1:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $15 (MTF members, $12) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office & all other Ticketmaster outlets, and at the door. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

★"Spring Has Sprung at Springhill": Southeast Michigan Land Conservancy/Superior Land Conservancy. All invited to join a hike of about a mile to enjoy spring wildflowers. Preceded at 1:15 p.m. by socializing. Refreshments. No pets. Be prepared for variable weather and muddy trails. *2–3 p.m., meet at 3345 Berry Rd. (just south of Ford Rd.), Superior Twp. Free. 484–6565.*

★"Kerry Tales: May Flowers and Mother Goose": Kerrytown Shops. 30-minute family-oriented program of rhymes, riddles, and stories with local storyteller Trudy Bulkley as Mother Goose. *2 p.m., Hollander's, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (Kerrytown). Free. 769–3115.*

★"Pom-Pom Launchers": Ann Arbor District Library. Craft activity for kids in grades K–5. *2–3 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–8301.*

★Beltaine Rite: Druids of Shining Lakes Grove. All invited to join local pagans for this ancient Celtic holiday that celebrates fertility. Also, a raffle and potluck. *2–5 p.m., Cavallo Equestrian Centre, 2185 Harris Rd., Ypsilanti. Free. 277–1897.*

Contact Improv. *Every Sun.* All invited to try this interactive, free-form dance style that involves a rolling point of contact between two or more people through which dancers give and share weight. It is somewhere between tango, modern dance, aikido, wrestling, gymnastics, and none of the above, and

usually takes place without music. People do contact improv in any combination of genders, and there are no steps. No partner required; beginners welcome. Followed by discussion and socializing. *2–4 p.m., Phoenix Center, 200 S. Main (above Elmo's). $5–$10 sliding scale based on ability to pay. 604–4416.*

★**4th Annual Water Hill Music Fest.** This neighborhood music festival, which draws thousands of visitors, features performances by more than 100 local musicians on front porches in the Water Hill neighborhood—so called because of its water-themed street names (Spring, Fountain, and Brooks). Also, **Maypole dancing** led by Nawal Motawi. The musicians perform in various genres from classical to jazz to rock and include everyone from the nationally renowned trio the **Chenille Sisters** and virtuoso classical pianist **Waleed Howrani** to amateur family bands and young musicians. The lineup also includes the Latin jazz band **Los Gatos,** the local alt-country trio **Hoodang,** the alt-country rock band **Corndaddy,** the local ska and 80s-style pop quintet **Hullabaloo,** folk singer-songwriter **Chris Buhalis,** the **Tree Town Community Chorus,** the jazz ensemble the **Ron Brooks Trio,** veteran local singer-songwriter **Dick Siegel,** a band led by 12-year-old singer-pianist-percussionist **Ella Kocher,** singer-songwriter duo of Appleseed Collective singer **Katie Lee** and guitarist **Andrew Brown,** and many others. Updated schedule of performance times and locations available at waterhill.org. Programs available on the day of the event at Big City Small World Bakery and from volunteers on foot. *Rain date:* May 11. *2–6 p.m., Water Hill neighborhood north of Miller bounded by Brooks, Sunset, and the train tracks. Free. info@waterhill.org.*

"Rent": Pioneer High School Theater Guild. See 2 Friday. 2 p.m.

"The Wizard of Oz": Wild Swan Theater. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"The Tempest": St. Augustine's Homeschool Enrichment Program Campion Players. See 2 Friday. 3 p.m.

"The Foreigner": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 p.m.

★**"Are You Confident Today?": Nicola's Books.** Michigan children's writer **Kris Yankee** discusses her new children's book, part of her Becoming a Better You series. Signing. *3 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

Christopher Lees & Lindsay Kesselman: First United Methodist Church Green Wood. The local husband-and-wife duo of soprano Kesselman, a member of the Philip Glass Ensemble, and pianist Lees, a U-M music professor, presents **"The Many Faces of Love,"** a program exploring love in its romantic, sacred, playful, sensuous, and philosophical guises. *3 p.m., FUMC Green Wood, 1001 Green Rd. Freewill offering. 662–4536, ext. 0.*

★**"Heroes in Sequels": Dexter Community Band.** Bill Gourley directs this 85-member volunteer ensemble in a program of popular music from popular movie franchises, including Star Wars, Superman, Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, Indiana Jones, and the sequel champion, James Bond, along with Wagner's Ring of the Nibelung opera cycle. *3 p.m., Dexter Center for the Performing Arts, Dexter High School, 2200 N. Parker, Dexter. Free. 426–2734.*

★**"From Rossi to Die Megille": Chaverim B'Shirim.** This local Jewish choir performs an eclectic program that includes 2 works by the 17th-century Italian Jewish composer Salomon Rossi—a setting of Psalm 80 for 4 voices sung in Hebrew and a love song for 5 voices sung in Italian—and Itzik Manger and Dov Seltzer's *Die Megille,* a twist on the Purim story (narrated in English and sung in Yiddish) told from the view of a tailor. Also, songs by former chorus member Jane Pitt and favorite selections chosen by the chorus's soloists. Refreshments. *3 p.m., Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"Carol lei Breckenridge, Scarlatti on the Italian Fortepiano": Community of Christ.** Local early keyboard specialist Breckenridge performs Scarlatti sonatas, primarily from his 1738 Essercizi set, on a replica of a 1730s Italian fortepiano. *4 p.m., Community of Christ Church, 420 W. Jefferson. Free. carolleibreckenridge@gmail.com, 761–3082.*

★**"Witch Eyes": Rainbow Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of Scott Tracey's sci-fi novel about a boy who's troubled by his ability to see people's secrets with one glance. *4:30–6 p.m., Jim Toy Community Center, 325 Braun Ct. Free. 763–4168.*

★**Ann Arbor Morris.** *Every Sun.* All invited to try this boisterous, jingly English ceremonial dance thought to be descended from the 15th-century Spanish *moresca.* Wear athletic shoes. *6–8 p.m., outside at the U-M campus between Rackham and North*

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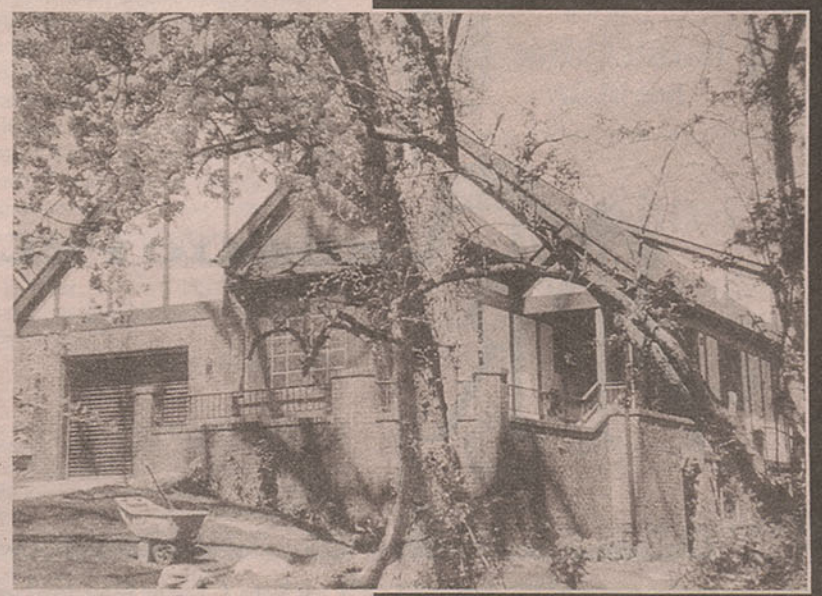

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Members of the community reading this notice, are encouraged to telephone Rita Heydon to adopt or foster one or more of the remaining felines so that we can retire with a peaceful heart: please call (734) 663-1618 to visit and perhaps decide to make one of these fur-balls' final years the most contented ever.

For those many individuals and volunteers who have supported our efforts over the years you know who you are. Besides being generous in your praise of Rita's ingenious advertisements to encourage adoptions, you have contributed significant sums to help us operate our refuge so successfully. We will miss the beautiful kittens that have come to us every spring season, but we will not miss the heartache of seeing some of them suffer; or seeing some of them returned to us because of their "unsuitablility." We have been proud to commit significant financial resources to our felines' health and happiness, but could not have done that either without the generous support and participation of our Veterinarians: Dr. Tina Kaufeld of Country Cat Clinic; our friends at the Westarbor Animal Hospital; and the Veterinarians providing spay and neuter services at the Humane Society of Huron Valley. Our homeless felines became more available for adoption over the years because of a caring and committed Staff and Volunteer band. We thank you all for your moral and financial support of our ambitious goals, being particularly grateful to those who found "love returned" in their adoptions of our kitties.

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Ballroom Dance Club at the U-M. Ballroom dancing to recorded music, including fox-trots, waltzes, cha-chas, rumbas, tangos, swing, and more. No partner necessary. Preceded at 7 p.m. by beginning lessons and practice. *8–10 p.m., Michigan Union Pendleton Room. $5 ($10 includes lessons). 763–6984.*

Ann Arbor Poetry Slam. *Every Sun.* All poets invited to compete in a poetry slam judged by a randomly chosen panel from the audience. The program begins with a brief poetry open mike and (usually) a short set by a featured poet. *8–11 p.m. (sign-up begins at 7:30 p.m.), Silvio's, 715 North University. $5 suggested donation. 985–0736.*

"Chili Challis' UNclub Comedy Open Mike": Emergent Arts. *May 4, 18, & 25.* Performances by aspiring and experienced comics from former *Tonight Show* staff writer Challis's comedy dojo. Emcee is Mark Sweetman. Refreshments. *8 p.m., The Mix Studio Theater, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $5 suggested donation. emergentarts.com, 985–0875.*

5 MONDAY

"Tiny Tots: Frog Frenzy": Leslie Science and Nature Center. *May 10 & 24.* All kids ages 1–3 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to find frogs in the Critter House and do a frog-related craft. Snacks provided; dress for the outdoors. *10–11:30 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $7. 997–1553.*

★**"Playgroups for Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** *Every Mon. except May 26.* Playgroup for kids up to 24 months, accompanied by an adult. No older siblings. *Note:* Play days are also offered at the Malletts Creek (Tues. 10–11 a.m., & Thurs. 6:30–7:30 p.m.), Pittsfield (Wed. 11 a.m.–noon), and Traverwood (Fri. 10:30–11 a.m.) branches. *10:30–11:30 a.m., AADL, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Writing Group: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Mon.* All seniors invited to read and discuss poetry, essays, fiction, and reminiscences they have written. *1–3 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

★**"Ann Arbor Downtown Group Run": Running Fit.** *Every Mon.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 123 E. Liberty. Free. 769–5016.*

★**"The Civilized Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Mon.* Slow-paced "no-drop" ride, 12–18 miles, to Dexter, with a possible stop for ice cream. A good ride for beginners. Other Mon. rides: **"Back Roads Ramble"** *(9 a.m., meet at 960 Forest Rd. off Country Club Dr., Barton Hills),* a slow-paced ride, 12–35 miles (761–2885, 663–5060), along dirt and gravel roads to Independence Lake and other low-traffic destinations. **"Paved Country Roads Ride"** *(5:30 p.m., meet at Royster Clark, 885 Parker Rd. at Pine Cross Lane just south of Jackson Rd., 426–5116),* fast-, moderate-, and slow-paced training rides, 18–24 miles, along country roads west of town. On May 26 only: **"Memorial Day Democratic Ride"** *(9 a.m., Wheeler Park, N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St.),* a ride (994–6431) whose pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. *7 p.m. sharp, Wellington Park, Alice at Bruce St. (off Arborview from Miller). Free. 945–4133.*

"Land of the Seven *Moles*: Oaxacan Mexican Dinner": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Roadhouse chef Bob Bennett hosts a traditional Oaxacan menu featuring staple ingredients like corn, empanadas, tamales, lentils, black beans, chocolate, and *mole* sauces. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $60 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

★**"Coming Out Swiss: In Search of Heidi, Chocolate and My Other Self": Nicola's Books.** U-M English and women's studies professor emerita **Anne Herrmann,** a dual citizen born in New York to Swiss parents, discusses her new book, a blend of memoir, history, and travelogue. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Large Ensemble Meeting: Ann Arbor Recorder Society.** All beginning and advanced players of the recorder and other early instruments invited. Directed by viol teacher and early music specialist Janet Cannon. Music provided; bring your own music stand. *7:30–9:30 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Free to visitors ($35 annual dues for those who join). 274–9463.*

Tartan & Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. *May 5, 12, & 19.* Jigs, reels, and strathspeys. Usually with live music. All dances taught; beginners welcome. *7:30–9:30 p.m., the Barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5. 395–7782, 769–1052, 426–0241.*

Pub Quiz: Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Mon.* Local high school English teacher Barry Aherne throws out questions for anyone to answer at this popular weekly trivia fest. Prizes. *8:30–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $5 team fee. 665–2968.*

The Collages of Brenda Miller Slomovits

Impassioned observations

TABITHA WALTERS

In early April, in the days following their release from this winter's hush of snow and ice, my outdoor surroundings chattered and sang in response to the warmth and light. The yards in my neighborhood uttered words I hadn't heard in months: grass, robin, crocus. Nature was again becoming its rich, colorful, elaborate self.

It was during this time that I saw an exhibit by the local artist Brenda Miller Slomovits, who specializes in intricate paper collages that channel a vibrancy and variety like that which was sprouting and blossoming outside the gallery. Her subjects range from natural spaces and animals to man-made places and local landmarks. Beautiful and moving, her collages not only evince a synergy among pretty and patterned scraps of paper, but also reveal Slomovits to be an impassioned observer of the world. She has an eye for detail, a taste for complexity, and an ear for the natural world's myriad voices.

As a medium, collage is well suited for capturing complexity—all those unique yet interdependent fragments, an organism wondrously made. One collage that embodies this quality is *Salamander* (2012): resting against a background of overlapping floral motifs, the title amphibian is composed of inky pieces of paper spangled with luminous gold, green, and blue dots. Some real-life species of salamander have spots on their skin, so Slomovits's intention might have been to replicate those markings. The effect, however, is of galaxies shining in the night sky, of star stuff embedded in a salamander's back.

Slomovits, who works at the newborn intensive care unit at the Mott Children's Hospital, started making collages in the early 1980s. She loves everything about her medium, from the colors and images of her paper, collected from magazines and calendars and maps, to the feel of tearing it. The rough edges and bold hues making up her collages can resemble thick, gestural brushstrokes, particularly in her "Latitude" series, three collages resembling post-impressionistic landscapes. With its gold, ochre, and azure palette, the hilly terrain in *Latitude 1* evokes a Van Gogh wheat field.

Her interest in the natural world extends to a deep concern about the effects of global warming. Her "Climate" series (2013–2014) includes four abstract collages—*Climate: 1952, Climate: 2032, Climate: 2052,* and *Climate: 2082*—that struck me as acute expressions of unease, fear, and anguish.

The exhibit also features several of Slomovits's Ann Arbor Observer covers, including collages from the late 1990s of the People's Food Co-op (featuring a display case packed with produce) and the Treasure Mart (featuring its display window packed with curios). According to Slomovits, these are "places with a personality," locales that are both close to her heart and meaningful to the rest of us.

This sensitivity to the vibrant particulars that make up our cherished world needs to be seen up close. The exhibit is on display at the Jewish Community Center's Amster Gallery through May 31.

—Stephanie Douglass

New exhibits this month:

Ann Arbor District Library, *Downtown Branch* (343 S. Fifth Ave.): *Child in a Strange Country: Helen Keller and the History of Education for People Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired* (May 2–June 25). National traveling exhibit of reproduction and original artifacts, including touch tables with hands-on activities, from braille writing to using a talking calculator. Reception May 2 (see 2 Friday Events listing). ***Malletts Creek Branch*** (3090 E. Eisenhower): *2014 AIA Huron Valley Awards* (May 2–June 2). Juried exhibit of photos of award-winning architectural projects by local members of the American Institute of Architects. Mon. 10 a.m.–9 p.m., Tues.–Fri. 9 a.m.–9 p.m., Sat. 9 a.m.–6 p.m., Sun., noon–6 p.m. 327–4555.

Clay Gallery, 335 S. Main. *For the Love of Animals* (May 5–June 16). Works in various media by Michigan artists Mark Chatterley, Ellen Moucoulis, Mike Sivak, Ted Ramsay, Valerie Mann, Jeri Hollister, Norma Penchansky-Glasser, Carrie Anne Park, John Schwarz, and Adrienne Kaplan. Reception May 9, 7–9 p.m. Mon.–Thurs. 11 a.m.–8 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 11 a.m.–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 662–7927.

Dancing Dog Gallery, 302 E. Liberty. *Drop the Plum* (May 18–June 28). Paintings by Sarah Clark Davis. Reception May 30, 7–10 p.m. Artist's talk June 1, 2 p.m. Wed. & Thurs. noon–5 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon–9 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 631–6565.

Gallery 55+, U-M Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. *Phyllis Perry & Kathleen Kelley* (Opens May 18). Photography by Perry and colored pencil drawings by Kelley. Reception May 18, 4 p.m. Mon.–Fri. 9 a.m.–5 p.m. 998–9353.

Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. *Inmost Reality* (Apr. 28–June 2). Manipulated photos by Chicago artist Hugh Semple. Mon.–Fri. 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m., by appointment, and during evening concerts. 769–2999.

River Gallery, 120 N. Main, Chelsea. *Saving Daniel Rhodes* (May 10–June 7). Sculptures, drawings, paintings, and photos by the late influential ceramicist Rhodes. All works were recently discovered in the basement of a building in Pontiac that was slated for foreclosure in July 2013. *Resonance: Lim, Jackson, Ferguson* (May 10–June 7). Paintings by Lesa Chittenden Lim, Meighen Jackson, and Linda King Ferguson. Reception May 10, 5–8 p.m. Wed.–Sat. 11 a.m.–5 p.m. 433–0826.

Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. *Art Around Town* (May 1–10). Works by Ypsilanti High School students. Thurs.–Sat. 3–8 p.m., Sun. 1:30–4 p.m. 480–2787.

trustArt studios, 7885 Jackson, suite 1. *Artists in Residence Exhibition* (May 16–June 13). Works in various media by studio members Liz Davis, Celibeth Donnelly, Liz Fall, Sarah Ross, and Allen Samuels. Reception May 16, 7–10 p.m. Tues. & Thurs. 12:30–3:30 p.m. & by appointment. 253–2551.

U-M Hatcher Graduate Library, enter from the Diag. ***In the Audubon Room*** (Gallery, Room 100): *Sayles Pitch: John Sayles, Author, Auteur, Independent* (May 1–July 10). Photographs, storyboards, scripts, props, and more from the archives of filmmaker Sayles, who wrote and directed films such as *Matewan* and *Brother from Another Planet.* ***In the Clark Library*** (2nd floor): *A Community for Victory: Ann Arbor in World War Two* (May 1–Aug. 1). Exhibit drawn from the library's map collection, the Ann Arbor District Library local historical archives, and the U-M Library's American Culinary History Collection. *Place: Ann Arbor* (May 1–Aug. 1). Exhibit of local maps, photos, and ephemera that range from planting plans for the Arb to maps of old bus routes. For hours, see lib.umich.edu/hatcher-graduate-library. 615–0445.

U-M Museum of Art (UMMA), 525 S. State. *Appropriation/Collaboration: Christian Marclay and Harrel Fletcher/Miranda July* (May 3–July 20). Exhibit of the 1995 single-channel found footage video *Telephones* by Marclay and display of works from Fletcher and July's *Learning to Love You More,* a web-based art sharing project that ran from 2002–2009 and encouraged users to upload their responses to creative assignments, such as "re-create this snapshot" or "take a picture of your parents kissing." *Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation 3* (May 24–Sept. 14). Contemporary Native North American art from the Northeast and Southeast. Tues.–Sat. 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 764–0395.

U-M Rackham Galleries, 915 E. Washington (4th floor). *Everywoman* (through May 23). Exhibit celebrating the 50th anniversary of the U-M Center for the Education of Women. Mon.–Fri. 8 a.m.–9 p.m. 433–0826.

WSG Gallery, 306 S. Main. *Francesc Burgos: Work* (May 6–June 14). Abstract ceramic works that evoke aspects of nature, geometry, architecture, music, and language. Tues. & Wed. noon–6 p.m., Thurs. noon–9 p.m., Fri. & Sat. noon–10 p.m., Sun. noon–5 p.m. 761–2287.

6 TUESDAY

Preschool Story Time: Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *Every Tues.* All preschoolers, accompanied by an adult, invited for stories. Followed by a science activity. *9–10 a.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. $11 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

Coffee Break: Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church. *Every Tues.* All women invited to study the Bible with other American and international women in small, informal groups. Also, Bible stories and fun activities for preschoolers, and child care provided for babies. *9:45–11:15 a.m. & 1:15–2:45 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. $15 for the year. 665–0105.*

★Preschool Storytime: Nicola's Books. *Every Tues.* Recently retired Ann Arbor District Library branch manager Ieva Bates reads stories for preschoolers. Also, craft activities. *10 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★Preschool Storytimes: Ann Arbor District Library. *Every Tues. & Wed.* Stories and songs for kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult). *Note:* These storytimes are also offered at the Traverwood (Tues., 11–11:30 a.m.; Wed., 6–6:30 p.m.; & Thurs. 10–10:30 a.m.), Malletts Creek (Wed. 10–10:30 a.m.), and Pittsfield (Thurs. 7–7:30 p.m. & Fri. 10–10:30 a.m.) branches. *10–10:30 a.m. (Tues.) & 11–11:30 a.m. (Wed.), AADL youth department story room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Scrabble: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Tues.* All ages invited to play this popular word game. Lunch available for $5.50 (age 60 & over, $3) at 11:30 a.m.–12:15 p.m.; reservations required. *10 a.m.–1 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

★Adults Tuesday: Jewish Community Center. *Every Tues.* Activities begin at 11 a.m. with **"Energy Exercise"** ($4), a 60-minute workout led by Maria Farquhar, followed at 1 p.m. by **mah-jongg, quilting,** and other games & activities. Also, at 1:30 p.m., **Yiddish Tish,** a Yiddish conversation group that also includes readings of Yiddish stories. Homemade buffet luncheon ($3) available at noon. All invited. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free (except as noted). 971–0990.*

★"Focus on Women: The Huron River Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society. *Every Tues.* Slow/moderate-paced ride, 18–30 miles, to Dexter and back. Other Tues. rides: **"Tuesday Ride to Chelsea and Beyond"** (9 a.m., Bird Hills Park parking lot, 1900 Newport Rd., 996–8440), a moderate-paced ride, 36–40 miles, to Chelsea for breakfast. *6 p.m., meet at Barton Nature Area parking lot, W. Huron River Dr. near Bird Rd. Free. 276–0240.*

★"Tuesday Evening Birders": Washtenaw Audubon Society. *Every Tues.* WAS members Lathe Claflin and Mike Sefton or city ornithologist Dea Armstrong lead evening walks at various local birding sites. Bring binoculars and (if you have one) a scope. *6 p.m., carpool from the Miller Rd. Park & Ride off M-14. Free. Anyone under 18 not accompanied by an adult relative or legal guardian must have a completed parental consent form (available from fieldtrips@washtenawaudubon.org). 994–3569, 668–2513.*

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★**"Knit Happens": Ann Arbor Stitch 'n' Bitch.** *Every Tues.* All knitters invited to work on their projects and swap knitting tips. *6:30–8:30 p.m., location TBA at meetup.com/ann-arbor-StitchNBitch/. Free. 945–3035.*

"A Stroll Through History: A Personal Tour of the Michigan Firehouse Museum": OLLI after 5 (U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute). Guided tour by museum curator Matt Lee, author of 7 books on firefighting. *7 p.m., Michigan Firehouse Museum, 100 W. Cross St., Ypsilanti. $8. 998–9351.*

★**"Gardening with Gusto": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by local landscape architect and master gardener Karleen Shafer, who is currently working on a new book to help homeowners develop an ecological, environmentally balanced landscape. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Public Art in Your Community": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to join a discussion of the place of public art in community life with members of Arts Alliance, which is currently working to develop a HUD-funded public arts plan for the Washtenaw Corridor in Ann Arbor, Pittsfield, and Ypsilanti. Attendees also have a chance to make a small art project. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

English Country Dancing: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. *Every Tues.* Historical and traditional English dancing to live music. All dances taught. No partner or experience needed. Bring flat, nonslip shoes (running shoes OK). First-timers are asked to arrive at 7 p.m. *7–9:30 p.m., Chapel Hill Condominium clubhouse, 3350 Green Rd. (park on Burbank). $8 (students, $4; kids age 13 & under with a parent, free). 665–7704.*

★**Voices in Harmony Sweet Adelines.** *Every Tues.* All women invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local 70-member a cappella barbershop harmony chorus. *7–9:30 p.m., UAW Local 898 Hall, 8975 Textile Rd. (west of Rawsonville Rd. off I-94), Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($26 monthly dues for those who join). 612–7580.*

★**Huron Valley Harmonizers Chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society.** *Every Tues.* All male singers invited to join the weekly rehearsals of this local barbershop harmony chorus. *7:30 p.m., Stony Creek United Methodist Church, 8635 Stony Creek Rd., Ypsilanti. Free to visitors ($130 annual dues for those who join). Newcomers should call in advance: Greg Humbel, 445–1925.*

★**Ann Arbor Camera Club.** *May 6 & 20. May 6:* Local travel photographers Howard Bond, Greg Czarnecki, Sue Dempsey, and Keith Matz present an illustrated survey of favorite techniques and locations for **"Travel Photography."** *May 20:* Club member and world traveler Carol Williamson presents an illustrated talk on **"The Journey of Man."** Also, club members show their digital images (May 6) and prints (May 20) on various topics, including the assigned topic **"Light Through a Structure."** *7:30 p.m., Forsythe Middle School media center, 1655 Newport. Free. 327–4781.*

★**Spanish Readers Group: Nicola's Books.** All invited to join a discussion, in Spanish, of *La Tesis de Nancy,* Ramon Sender's novel about the cultural misadventures of an American college student studying in Seville. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"The Foundation Stone Meditation": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** Talk by Christian Community of America Detroit region priest J. Michael Brewer. *7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 276–5294.*

★**"Viewing Night": U-M Detroit Observatory.** *May 6 & 12.* All invited to peer at the night sky through antique telescopes. The Observatory dome can be opened only during mild, dry weather, so check dept. astro.lsa.umich.edu/detroit.php after 5 p.m. to see if the event has been canceled due to weather conditions. *8–9:30 p.m., U-M Detroit Observatory, 1398 E. Ann at Observatory. Free. 764–3482.*

★**German Speakers Round Table.** *Every Tues.* All German speakers invited for conversation. *8–10 p.m., Grizzly Peak Brewing Company, 120 W. Washington. Free admission. 453–2394.*

7 WEDNESDAY

"What Happens to Research Data at the End of a Project?": Ann Arbor City Club Lunch & Learn. Talk by U-M Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research director Amy Pienta. *11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., AACC, 1830 Washtenaw. $30 (members, $25). Reservations required by May 2. 662–3279, ext. 1.*

"The Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments: A U-M Treasure": Kempf House Museum Noon Lecture Series. *Postponed from March.* Talk by U-M Stearns Collection acting curator Chris Dempsey and educational outreach coordinator Carol Stepanchuk. *Noon–1 p.m., Kempf House, 312 S. Division. Admission $2 (Kempf House members, $1). 994–4898.*

★**Chess: U-M Turner Senior Wellness Program.** *Every Wed.* All seniors invited to play chess. Refreshments. *1–4 p.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, 2401 Plymouth Rd. Free. 998–9353.*

High Point School Spaghetti Dinner: Kiwanis Club of Ann Arbor Western. All-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner. Proceeds benefit this local school for the physically and mentally challenged. *5–7 p.m., Washtenaw Intermediate School District complex, 1819 S. Wagner. $7 (kids, $3) at the door only. 395–6174.*

★**Scrabble: Ann Arbor Scrabble Club.** *Every Wed.* Word freaks of all abilities invited to drop in to play this popular word game, using an updated word list. *5–8 p.m., Arbor Brewing Co., 114 E. Washington. Free. 994–0084, 277–7748.*

★**"Musical Meditations": Temple Beth Emeth/St. Clare's Episcopal Church.** *May 7, 14, & 21.* TBE cantor Annie Rose and St. Clare's music director John Goodell collaborate on musical programs TBA. *5:30–6:15 p.m., TBE/St. Clare's, 2309 Packard. Free. cantorannie@gmail.com, 665–4744.*

★**"West Side Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** *Every Wed.* Slow/moderate-paced 25-mile ride and a slow-paced ride, 13–18 miles, to the Dexter Dairy Queen and back. Now in its 37th year, this ride is a favorite with newcomers and casual riders. Other Wed. rides: **"Early Morning Ride from Ann Arbor West Side"** *(10 a.m., Bird Hills Park parking lot, 1900 Newport Rd., 649–9762),* a moderate-paced 40-mile ride to Chelsea or Whitmore Lake and beyond. **"Superior Salem Dirt Road"** *(9 a.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church parking lot, Gotfredson Rd. at Ann Arbor–Plymouth Rd., 663–5060, 248–437–5067, 663–8980),* a slow/moderate-paced ride, 19 miles or more, along gravel country roads. *6 p.m. sharp, meet at Paladin parking lot, 2800 N. Zeeb Rd. Free. 426–5116 (longer ride), 665–4552 & 761–2659 (shorter ride).*

Bingo: Ann Arbor Senior Center. *Every Wed.* All invited to play bingo. Cash prizes. *6–10 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 admission. $9 per game. 769–5911.*

★**"Ann Arbor West Group Run": Running Fit.** *Every Wed.* Runners of all abilities invited to join a weekly run, 3–8 miles, along varying routes. Snacks provided. Rain or shine. *6:30 p.m., Running Fit, 5700 Jackson. Free. 929–9022.*

★**Spring Exhibition: Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club.** Performances by local figure skaters. *6:45–8:05 p.m., Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 213–6768.*

Ann Arbor Bridge Club. *Every Wed.* All invited to play ACBL-sanctioned duplicate bridge. If you plan to come without a partner, call in advance or arrive 20 minutes early. *7–11 p.m., Walden Hills clubhouse, 2114 Pauline west of Maple. (Park in the designated spaces in the lot on the north side of Pauline.) $6 per person. 623–8050.*

★**"Wall Street Demystified": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff show how to use the Morningstar Investments (Chicago) database to get independent and trustworthy stock and mutual fund analysis. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**OLLI Poetry Night: Bookbound.** Poetry readings by students of the U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. *7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★**"Sensory Communication: Relaying and Receiving Information Through Touch": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M performing arts technology professor Sile O'Modhrain, in the context of the current AADL Helen Keller exhibit (see Galleries). *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**Kevin Keating: Nicola's Books.** This Cleveland writer reads from ***The Natural Order of Things,*** his new novel that takes place over a Halloween weekend in a decaying Midwestern town dominated by a Jesuit prep school. The plot concerns a doomed quarterback and a former headmaster betrayed by his peers in the worst possible way. *Cleveland Magazine* reviewer Barry Goodrich calls it "a darkly brilliant, sometimes disturbing odyssey that lays bare the human condition." Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Bruce Mills: Literati Bookstore.** *See review, p. 76.* This Kalamazoo College English professor reads from ***An Archaeology of Yearning,*** his new memoir about growing up as one of 7 children in a working class Iowa family and being father to a son with autism. Signing. *7 p.m., Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

Shari Kane & Dave Steele: On the Tracks Singer-Songwriter Showcase. Performance by this local husband-and-wife duo of acoustic guitar virtuosos whose repertoire includes both traditional and original blues, gospel, swing, and ragtime. They also talk about how they wrote their songs. *7–9 p.m., Chelsea*

Depot, 12 Jackson, Chelsea. $15 suggested donation. Info: call Annie Capps at 330–5226.

★**"Introduction to Steiner's Thought": Great Lakes Branch of the Anthroposophical Society in America.** *Every Wed.* All invited to join a discussion of Rudolf Steiner's *How to Know Higher Worlds. 7:30 p.m., Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave. Free. 485–3764.*

★**History of Books & Printing Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss ***Shaping a Library: William L. Clements as Collector,*** Margaret Maxwell's book about the U-M regent who founded the U-M Clements Library of American history and culture in 1923. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

★**Visitors Night: Ann Arbor Model Railroad Club.** All invited to check out the trains whizzing around on the club's big, elaborate layout, housed in a depot restored by the club. *7:30–10 p.m., Michigan Central depot, 3487 Broad, Dexter. Free. 426–5100.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 7, 15, 22, & 29.* Performances by up to 12 aspiring area stand-up comics. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m., 314 E. Liberty (below Seva restaurant). $5 in advance and at the door. 996–9080.*

Open Dancing: Swing Ann Arbor. *Every Wed.* Swing dancing to recorded music. No partner needed. Bring casual or nicer shoes that stay on your feet when you're active. Preceded at 8 p.m. by a lesson. Followed May 14 & 28 at 11 p.m. by **"Late Night @ Silvio's"** swing dancing (see Nightspots). *9–11 p.m., Michigan League Vandenburg Room (May 7 & 14) & Michigan Union Pendleton Room (May 21 & 28), $5 (students, $4; $1 discount for members). 945–8428.*

"Juke Box Jungle": Conor O'Neill's Irish Pub. *Every Wed.* Conor O'Neill's staff member Ryan Halsey hosts a music trivia quiz. Prizes. *9–11:30 p.m., Conor O'Neill's, 318 S. Main. $3 team fee. 665–2968.*

8 THURSDAY

★**"J.S. Bach's Orgelbüchlein": First Baptist Church Coffee Break Concert Series.** Local organists **Shin-Ae Chun, Gail Jennings, Naki Kripfgans,** and **Alice Van Wambeke** perform selections from Bach's *Little Organ Book* on the church's 3-manual Robert Noehren organ, including chorale preludes for Easter, Pentecost, Song of Simeon, and other occasions. *12:15 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 663–9376.*

Ikebana International Chapter 183. *Tentative.* Club members lead a session of ikebana, the Japanese art of flower arranging. Call for instructions on equipment to bring. *1 p.m., University Commons, 817 Asa Gray Dr. (off Huron Pkwy.). $15 (members, $8) materials fee. (248) 685–7696.*

"Bocks & Trappists": Arbor Brewing Company Beer Tasting. A chance to sample and learn about more than 2 dozen bocks, *doppelbocks,* and Belgian Trappist ales. Also, a drawing for beer-related prizes. The price of admission includes unlimited beer sampling and a German appetizer buffet. *7–9 p.m., Arbor Brewing Company, 114 E. Washington. Tickets $25 in advance, $30 (if available) at the door. 213–1393.*

"Take a Hike!": Ann Arbor District Library. A city natural area preservation staff naturalist leads a hike through the popular 102-acre **Barton Nature Area** to explore its diverse natural features. *7–8:30 p.m., meet in the parking lot off Huron River Dr. just north of Bird Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"UMjobs.org": Ann Arbor District Library.** A U-M Human Resources Office business systems analyst discusses how to search and apply for U-M jobs. *7–9 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"Running for Public Office 101": Ann Arbor District Library.** Former Ann Arbor city councilwoman Wendy Woods moderates a panel discussion with people who have successfully run for local school board, county commission, city council, and county clerk. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Ice Cream Social: The Struggle for the Soul of Ben & Jerry's": Nicola's Books.** Journalist **Brad Edmondson** discusses his new book about the difficulties that ice cream company Ben & Jerry's has encountered in trying to fulfill its missions to make the world's best ice cream, support progressive causes, and share the company's profits with all stakeholders. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Open Mike & Share": Bookbound.** Reading by poet (and local early music specialist) **Janet Cannon.** The program begins with an open mike for poets. *7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★**35th Anniversary Concert: Washtenaw Community Concert Band.** Chris Heidenreich conducts this 80-member band in the premiere of area composer David Biedenbender's *Daybreak Crossing* as well as favorites from the band's 35 years of performing. Also, a display of band memorabilia and appearances by former conductors Lynn Cooper, Paul Stanifer, and Jerry Robbins. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 252–9221.*

"Measure for Measure": Greenhills School. Ben Col en directs students in Shakespeare's nasty comedy about the role of justice, mercy, and moral high-mindedness in human affairs. *7:30 p.m., Greenhills School Campbell Center for the Performing Arts, 850 Greenhills Dr. Free. 769–4010.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"Noises Off": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. *May 8–11.* Jason Smith directs local actors in Michael Frayn's popular comedy, which the *New York Post* called "the funniest farce ever written," about the hilarious misadventures of an acting troupe on tour with an awful British sex farce called *Nothing On.* The action features a backstage view of rehearsals and performances sabotaged by bloated egos, petty jealousies, furtive romances, and other distractions. Cast: Jimmy Dee Arnold, Laurie Atwood, Nick Boyer, Neil Clennan, Thom Johnson, Chris Manna, Kate Papachristou, Alexandria Strother, and Laura Tanner. *8 p.m. (May 8–10) & 2 p.m. (May 11), U-M Walgreen Drama Center Arthur Miller Theatre, 1226 Murfin, North Campus. Tickets $22 (seniors age 60 & over, $20; students, $11; Thurs., $17) in advance at a2ct.org & by phone, and (if available) at the door. 971–2228.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Tracey MacDonald: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 8–10.* Local debut of this L.A.-based Canadian comic known for her alternatingly acerbic and self-deprecating observational humor. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 p.m. (Thurs.–Sat.) & 10:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 314 E. Liberty. $9 (Thurs.) & $12 (Fri. & Sat.) reserved seating in advance, $11 (Thurs.) & $14 (Fri. & Sat.) general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

9 FRIDAY

"Rummage Sale": Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church. *May 9 & 10.* With a large array of donated items. A fundraiser for programs serving schoolchildren in Kanpon, Ghana. *9 a.m.–3 p.m., Ann Arbor Christian Reformed Church, 1717 Broadway. Free admission. 665–0105.*

★**"Kinderconcert: Music and Motion": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, and Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra flutist Penny Fischer lead kids ages 2–5 (accompanied by an adult) in a program that includes storytelling and dancing to live music. Participants also learn about the instruments. Accompanist is U-M music faculty pianist Kathryn Goodson. *9:30–10 & 10:30–11 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Jewish Community Center Chamber Recital Series. An Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra chamber ensemble led by AASO artistic director Arie Lipsky performs Haydn's String Quartet and Dvorak's String Quartet in E-flat. Cellist Lipsky is joined by violinists Aaron Berofsky and Barbara Sturgis-Everett and violist Kathryn Votapek. Preceded at 1 p.m. by dessert. *1:30 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). $10. 971–0990.*

Dollhouse & Miniatures Show: Three Blind Mice. *May 9 & 10.* Show and sale of dollhouses and the miniature furniture, books, plants, and accessories used to decorate them. *4–8 p.m. (May 9) & 10 a.m.–3 p.m. (May 10), Holiday Inn, 3600 Plymouth Rd. $5 (kids ages 5–15, $2). (513) 861–0704.*

U-M Baseball vs. Ohio State. *May 9 & 11 (single games) & May 10 (doubleheader).* The May schedule also includes games vs. **Illinois-Chicago** (May 13, 6 p.m.) and **Kansas** (May 17, 2 p.m., & May 18, 1 p.m.). *6 p.m. (May 9), 2 p.m. (May 10), & noon (May 11), Ray Fisher Stadium. Tickets $7 & $8 (youth & seniors, $5; U-M students, faculty, & staff and kids under age 5, free). 764–0247.*

"Short's Brewery Tasting": Zingerman's Creamery. Zingerman's Creamery staff discuss and offer taste samples of Creamery cheeses paired with this Bellaire (MI) craft beer brewery. *6–8 p.m., Zingerman's Creamery, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30. 929–0500.*

★**"Nintendo Night": Ann Arbor District Library.** All adults and teens in grade 6 & up invited to play games from the AADL collection of vintage video games. Also, a **Super Mario Bros.** speed-run tournament with prizes. *6–8:45 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

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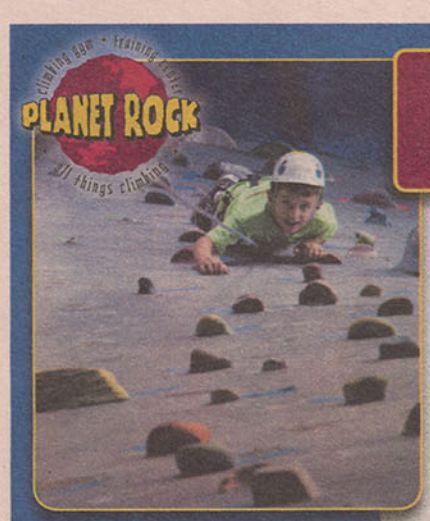

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"Kidz Night Out in Ann Arbor": Bricks 4 Kidz. All kids invited for a variety of craft activities, games, challenges, and open play using motorized Lego sets. Pizza. *6–9 p.m., Bricks 4 Kidz, Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $30 ($25 for siblings). 719–0303.*

"Midwife: A Look into the World of Homebirth Midwifery": Friends of Michigan Midwives. *May 9 & 10.* Showing of Allison Kuznia's educational film about the work of a homebirth midwife. Followed by discussion. *7 p.m., 722 Brooks. $15. 660–9785.*

"Lady Grey (in ever lower light)": Emergent Arts. *May 9–11.* Ron Miller directs Kristin Beckett in Will Eno's extended monologue that takes as its starting point a painful grade school show-and-tell incident. Followed by Eno's *Thom Pain* (see listing below). *7 p.m., Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $10 in advance at brownpapertickets.com and at the door. emergentarts.com.*

Celtic Woman: Live Nation. Popular all-female ensemble, described as "*Riverdance* for the voice," that performs traditional and contemporary Celtic songs. *7:30 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $59–$99 in advance at Ticketmaster.com & all Ticketmaster outlets. To charge by phone, call (800) 745–3000.*

"May Madness": Michigan Argentine Tango Club. *May 9–11.* Four nights of tango dance parties. Preceded by tango workshops. *Times TBA, Michigan League. $15 (tentative; discount for students). umich.edu/~matc.*

Advanced English Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. New Jersey caller Judi Rivkin leads dances to live music by Childgrove. For experienced dancers. *8–11 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. jfuerst@juno.com, (248) 288–4737.*

Peter Madcat Ruth and Dave Boutette: Mangiamo Italian Grill Acoustic Routes Concert. Double bill. Madcat is a world-renowned local harmonica whiz with a massive multi-genre repertoire of blues, jazz, folk, and rock tunes, along with several fine originals and songs by other contemporary composers. Boutette is a veteran local folk-rock singer-guitarist whose genial songs about the small ups and downs of ordinary life draw on a range of influences from Chuck Berry to Paul Westerberg. *8 p.m., Mangiamo, 107 W. Michigan Ave, Saline. $15 by reservation and at the door. Preferred seating for dinner customers. 429–0060.*

Melanie: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). Dubbed the "Jewel of the Woodstock generation," this folk-rock songstress, who sings in a voice at once raspy and chirpy, is best known for her 1971 novelty hit "Brand New Key." Her repertoire includes covers of the likes of the Beatles, the Stones, and Dylan, along with a large number of upbeat, hook-happy originals. *Note:* This show is likely to sell out in advance. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $20 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance at greenwoodcoffeehouse.org and at the door. 665–8558.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Noises Off": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Tracey MacDonald: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Growing Grapes for the Future": The Yellow Barn. Laurence Miller, best known as the local children's musician **Mister Laurence,** premieres his new film, a family-friendly musical fantasy, with 14 original songs, about 2 schoolchildren who decide owning a vineyard is the best way for them to make some cash. While researching their plan, they meet a wacky professor who convinces them the future can be read in the wrinkled lines of raisins. Raffle for a DVD copy of the film. Grape juice & raisins. *8:30 p.m., Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. $5. http://ow.ly/vTrx8*

"Thom Pain (based on nothing)": Emergent Arts. *May 9–11.* Ron Miller directs Peter Knox in Will Eno's darkly comical one-man show about a guy who suffers from a mundane life. The *New York Times* calls Eno "a Samuel Beckett for the Jon Stewart generation." Preceded by Eno's *Lady Grey* (see listing above). *9 p.m. (May 9 & 10) & 4 p.m. (May 11), Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. $10 in advance at brownpapertickets.com and at the door. emergentarts.com.*

10 SATURDAY

★Annual International Migratory Bird Count: Washtenaw Audubon Society. All invited—from novices to experienced birders—to help take a census of birds in Washtenaw County. Part of a 24-hour worldwide snapshot of populations of resident and migrant birds. Similar in structure to the WAS Christmas Bird Count: groups of volunteers are assigned specific areas to count. Feeder watchers also invited. *All day, throughout Washtenaw County. Free. To volunteer or for information, email fieldtrips@washtenawaudubon.org*

★"Spring Round-Up Horse Show": 4-H. Club members and other area riders demonstrate horsemanship, equitation, pleasure riding, and more. Concessions. *8 a.m.–about 7 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 997–1678.*

25th Annual Heart & Sole Fun Run•Walk•Bike": Chelsea Community Hospital. 5- and 10-km and 2-mile runs, 5-km and 2-mile walks and a 13.8-mile bike race to benefit the CCH Grace Clinic, a free health care clinic for the uninsured or underinsured in the Chelsea area. Awards. *8:15 a.m. (bike race) & 9:30 a.m. (runs & walks), Chelsea Community Hospital, 775 S. Main, Chelsea. $25 (kids age 13 & under, $15; bike & run combo, $45) in advance by May 7 at chelseaheartandsole.com; $28 (kids age 13 & under, $15; bike & run combo, $50) on race day. The bike races are open to riders age 14 & older. 475–4157.*

★"Heart Walk & 5K Run": American Heart Association Fundraiser. Noncompetitive walk and timed 5-km runs to raise funds for heart disease research and education. Also, a kids' zone, health screenings, music, refreshments, and more. Dogs welcome. Superhero costumes encouraged. *8:30 a.m., EMU, Ypsilanti. Free to walk; $35 to run. washtenawheartwalk.org, (248) 936–5813.*

★Eco-Restoration Workday: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. *May 10 & 17.* All invited to help Matthaei staff members remove invasive plants. Dress for outdoor work. Tools provided, or bring your own. *Note:* Kids age 15 & under must be accompanied by an adult. Youth ages 16–18 must submit a permission form. *9 a.m.–noon, meet at the Arb Reader Center (May 10), 1610 Washington Hts., & Matthaei (May 17), 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free (metered parking at Matthaei). Preregistration required by phone or email. tgriffit@umich.edu, 647–8528.*

★"6th Annual Touch a Truck": Washtenaw Success by 6/Washtenaw Great Start Parent Coalition. All kids invited to view and touch trucks, including a fire engine, a school bus, a tractor, and more. Also, information booths on early childhood programs. Last year's event included 25 vehicles. Also, information booths on early childhood programs. *9 a.m.–noon, Ypsilanti Community High School, 2095 Packard, Ypsilanti. Free. 994–8100, ext. 2178.*

39th Annual All Breed Cat Show: Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers. Hundreds of beautiful cats, ranging from local house pets to exotic and rare purebreds representing over 25 breeds, compete for awards or regional and national points. *9 a.m.–5 p.m., U-M Sports Coliseum, Hill at Fifth Ave. Spectators $6 (students & seniors, $5; kids, $4; families, $15) at the door. 434–8588.*

Hudson Mills Metropark Interpretive Nature Programs. *May 10, 11, & 17.* Presented by park naturalist Mark Irish. *May 10 (10 a.m.):* **"Explore Dexter-Huron."** All invited to hike around this little-known gem of a park, a favorite among wildflower enthusiasts. Meet at the East Shelter parking lot, 6535 Huron River Dr. *May 11 (9 & 11 a.m.):* **"Mother's Day Wildflower Walk."** A hike to look for spring wildflowers. Also, brunch ($8; kids under 2, free) available at 10 a.m. *May 17 (noon):* **"Bike Hike."** All invited to join a leisurely bike hike to explore different parts of the park. Helmets required. *Various times, Hudson Mills activity center (except as noted), 8801 North Territorial Rd., Dexter. $5 (kids, $3) except as noted. Preregistration required. $7 vehicle entrance fee. 426–8211.*

★"6th Annual Ann Arbor Mini Maker Faire." Local exhibitors demonstrate electronic vehicles, robot building, amateur radio, electronic music, and other DIY science, tech, and engineering projects. Also, hands-on activities. "It's like science fair meets the county fair," says an organizer. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds, 5055 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 417–8677.*

"Mommy & Me Tea": Lamaze Family Center of Ann Arbor. All moms and their kids invited for tea, juice, and sandwiches. Also, an opportunity for kids to make a Mother's Day gift. Family photos available ($30). Proceeds benefit the Lamaze Family Center. Geared toward kids ages 2–5. Dressy attire encouraged. *10 a.m., Lamaze Family Center, 2855 Boardwalk. $10 for mom plus one child (additional children, $5 each); preregistration required at lamazefamilycenter.org. 973–1014.*

★"Play Group and Elder's Circle": Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool. All parents invited for a group discussion. Indoor and outdoor activities for toddlers and preschool-aged kids, accompanied by an adult. Siblings and friends welcome. *10 a.m.–noon, Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool, 1547 Miller. Free. 585–5555.*

★"Newspaper Pots": Ecology Center of Ann Arbor. All invited to turn an old newspaper into a seed-

ling pot to plant in your garden. Followed by guided tours of the city's recycling and trash disposal center; close-toed shoes and long pants required for the tour. *10 & 11:30 a.m., Materials Recovery Facility, 4120 Platt Rd. Free. Preregistration required for groups of 5 or more. 369–9272.*

"Nature Tales": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All kids ages 1–5 (accompanied by a caregiver) invited to hear Maurice Sendak's classic children's book ***Where the Wild Things Are.*** *10–11 a.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $2 per person. 997–1533.*

Plant Sales: U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens Fundraiser. *May 10, 11, 17, & 18.* Two weekend plant sales, including a **"Mother's Day Plant Sale"** (May 10 & 11) with container plants and hanging baskets and a **"Kitchen Favorites Sale"** (May 17 & 18) with herbs and heirloom vegetables. Also, members of the Herb Study Group and the Michigan Gourd Society are on hand during the 2nd weekend to offer tips on growing herbs and gourds. *10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free admission; metered parking. 647–7600.*

2014 Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Festival: Ann Arbor Juggling Arts Club. Jugglers of all ability levels invited to join jugglers from around Michigan and beyond for free-form juggling and workshops. Events include games, open juggling, lessons, a sale of juggling items, and more. *Note:* Attendees age 17 & under must be accompanied by a parent. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., Wide World Sports Center, 2140 Oak Valley Dr. $2 (age 11 & under, free with an adult). (248) 990–8084.*

★12th Annual Physics Olympiad: U-M Physics Department. Area high school teams battle in this fun, creative competition that involves a variety of physics contests, such as electric car drag racing and making bridges out of pasta. *10:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Randall (450 Church) & Dennison (500 Church). Free. graithel@umich.edu, 764–5539, 647–9031.*

★Fun Day: Starry Skies Equine Rescue & Sanctuary. Games, activities, and a chance to brush and pet horses and ponies. Also, a silent auction and a workshop on **"Owning Your Own Horse."** Snacks & prizes. *Rain date:* May 17. *11 a.m.–3 p.m., Starry Skies Equine Rescue & Sanctuary, 8133 W. Liberty (2 miles west of Zeeb). Free, but donations welcome. 845–6542.*

★"Make a Mother's Day Card": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K–5 invited to make a Mother's Day card and paper flowers. Supplies provided. *11 a.m.–noon, AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

"La Cenerentola": Quality 16. Live broadcast of the **Metropolitan Opera** production of Rossini's 2-act comic opera, a version of the Cinderella story that dispenses with the magical elements of the traditional fairy tale. "The lighthearted situations are frivolous, the dialogues whimsical, and above all the score bubbles, pops, and fizzes," says opera critic T. LeRoy Perreira. Performed in Italian, with English supertitles. Stars Joyce Didonato, Juan Diego Florez, Alessandro Corbelli, & Luca Pisaroni. The broadcast is reprised on tape May 14 (see listing). *12:55–4:35 p.m., Quality 16, 3686 Jackson. Tickets $23 (seniors, $20; kids age 12 & under & students, $13.50) in advance at gqti.com/met.aspx and at the door. 623–7469.*

"Critters Up Close!": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *May 10 & 11.* Leslie Science and Nature Center staff show live animals. Also, animal-oriented hands-on activities. *1–4 p.m., AAHOM Michigan Nature Gallery, 220 E. Ann. $11 regular admission (members & kids under age 2, free). 995–5439.*

Ebird & Friends: The Ark. Kids show hosted by **Erin Zindle,** the frontwoman of the classy local progressive country-rock band The Ragbirds. She is joined by the renowned folk, blues, & jazz harmonica wizard **Peter Madcat Ruth,** singer-songwriters **Chris Good** and **Yorg Kerasiotis,** members of the local bebop jam band **The Macpodz,** Moxie Strings fiddler **Diane Ladio,** and others TBA. MC is local improv comic **Shelly Smith.** *1 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $10 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com), the ark.org, and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

★"Storytelling with Frances Kai-Hwa Wang": Bookbound. Local writer (and Observer contributor) Wang reads children's books and tells stories about growing up Asian in America. In celebration of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. All ages welcome. *2 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★"Just Like Mama": Common Language Bookstore. A Common Language staffer reads Lesléa Newman's children's book about a girl spending the day with her mother. Hot cocoa and cookies and a coloring activity. *2 p.m., Common Language, 317 Braun Ct. Free. 663–0036.*

★"Kodu with Kito": Ann Arbor District Library. Local educator Kito presents a hands-on introduction for kids in grades 2–5 to Kodu, a computer programming language designed for creating games. *2–4 p.m., AADL training center, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Nature Fun for Kids: The Miniature Forest": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Shawn Severance leads kids ages 4–7 on a hike to look with magnifying glasses at the forest floor. *2–3:30 p.m., County Farm Park Medford Rd. entrance. Free; preregistration required. severances@ewahstenaw.org, 971–6337, ext. 335.*

★K.A. Barson: Ann Arbor District Library. This young-adult fiction writer, who published her debut novel *45 Pounds* last summer, discusses the craft of writing and announces the winners of the annual **AADL teen short story contest.** Refreshments. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"LIVE on Washington": The Neutral Zone. 2nd annual outdoor teen music and arts festival, curated and planned by teens, with two stages, street art, food vendors, and more. Headliner is the nationally known Ann Arbor–born neo-soul singer-songwriter **Mayer Hawthorne** (9 p.m.). *Mainstage lineup:* rock band **Psychedelic Engine** (3:30 p.m.), rapper **The King** (4 p.m.), the Saline High rock band **Chasing Red** (4:30 p.m.), rapper **Fernando Rojo** (5 p.m.), **Erez Dressel's Band** (5:30 p.m.), introspective folk-rock singer-songwriter **Dan Henig** (6 p.m.), Chelsea folk-pop band **Lottie and the Manatee** (6:30 p.m.), hip-hop MC **Schematic** (7 p.m.), acoustic pop duo **Isaac & Oren** with drummer **Erez Levin** (7:30 p.m.), the Skyline High alternative funk-rock band **Creal** (8 p.m.), and electronic-house band **Flashbulb Iris** (8:30 p.m.). *Acoustic stage lineup:* singer-songwriter **Sam Torres** (3:45 p.m.), **Monica Nedeltchev** (4:15 p.m.), **Average Johnson** (4:45 p.m.), fingerstyle guitarist **Ali Shahin** (5:10 p.m.), indie pop singer-songwriter and ukulele player **Katherine Hepburn** (5:15 p.m.), soul singer **Sam Watson** (5:45 p.m.), and guitarist **Aly Reynolds** (6:15 p.m.). *3–10 p.m., E. Washington between 5th Ave. & Division. Free admission. 214–9995.*

★"Show & Tell for Grownups": Ann Arbor District Library. All adults invited to bring an item in their possession that bears some personal or historical significance and tell its story for a 1-minute video to be included in an aadl.org online archive. Organized by local Association for Personal Historians members Janet Ogle-Mater, Chuck Newman, and Stephanie Kadel Taras, who also host similar events at the Old German below Grizzly Peak (May 7, 6–7:30 p.m.) and the Jewish Community Center (May 10, 7–9 p.m.). *3–5 p.m., AADL 4th-floor meeting room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Youth Orchestra Concert: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts. Michael Hopkins directs the Youth Symphony Orchestra, Sarah Lenhart directs the Sterling String Orchestra, and Kasia Bielak-Hoops directs 2 chamber music groups, the Brandenburg Project and the Sterling String Quartet. Program TBA. *3 p.m., Michigan Theater. $5. 213–2000.*

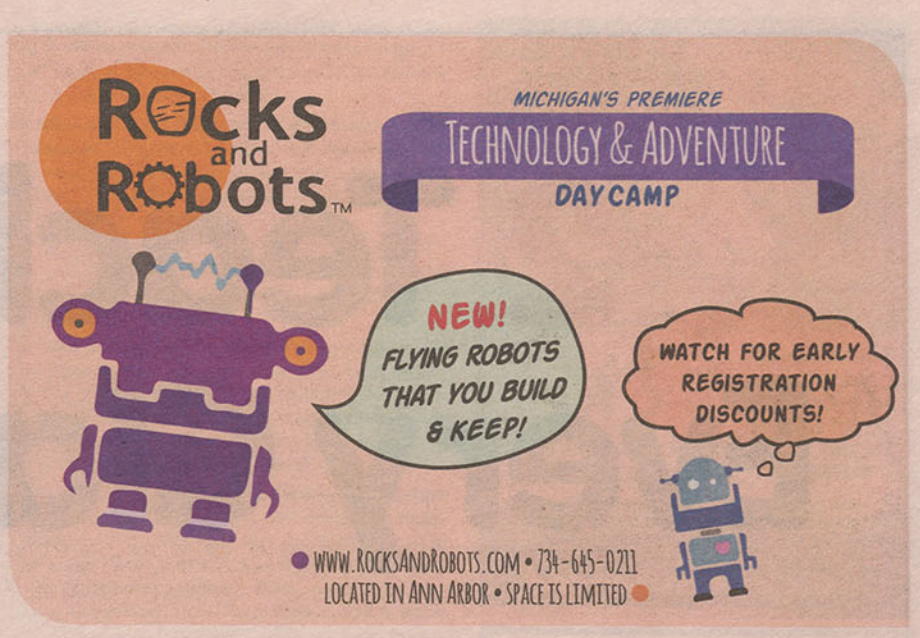
★"Buddha's Birthday Celebration": Zen Buddhist Temple. *May 10 & 11.* The most festive occasion of the Buddhist year. *May 10:* Panel discussion on **"Mindfulness in Everyday Life"** (3:30 p.m.), with Zen Buddhist Temple members TBA. **11th Annual Buddha's Evening Celebration** (6 p.m.) includes a buffet with vegetarian hors d'oeuvres, entrées, and dessert, followed by a program of musical entertainment TBA. *May 11:* The program begins at 9:30 a.m. with meditation and a dharma talk by resident priest Haju Murray and the traditional **"Bathing of Baby Buddha"** with sweet tea. Also at 3 p.m., **"An Introduction to Meditation"** and at 7:30 p.m., **chanting and lighting of traditional lotus lanterns,** along with scriptural readings by representatives from other area Buddhist groups. *3:30–8:30 p.m. (Sat.) & 9:30 a.m.–8:30 p.m. (Sun.), Zen Buddhist Temple, 1214 Packard at Wells. All events are free, except Evening Celebration (adults, $12; students & seniors, $6; $5; families, $30). Tickets available in advance and at the door. 761–6520.*

"Lady Grey (in ever lower light)": Emergent Arts. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

Singles Dance: Parents Without Partners. All singles invited for an evening of socializing and dancing to recorded 70s to contemporary dance music played by a DJ. Cash bar. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck (bring a dish to pass, or pay $5). *8 p.m.–midnight, Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $8 (PWP members, $6). 973–1933. 994–0587, 214–6449.*

Ballroom Dancing Night: Pittsfield Township Parks and Recreation Department. Ballroom dancing to recorded music from the last several decades. Singles and couples invited. Refreshments. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a lesson. *8–10:30 p.m., Pittsfield Twp. Recreation Hall, S. State at Ellsworth. $10. 822–2120.*

2nd Saturday Contra Dance. Mark Hillegonds calls to music by the Sharon Hollow String Band. No partner needed. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a **swing dance workshop** ($5). *8–11*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6/15 | Sunday
Teams entering grades 9–12 | $250

Wolverine Day Camp
7/21 – 7/23 | Mon – Wed
Girls ages 5 – 9
$300 full-day | $175 half-day

Wolverine Individual Camp
8/03 – 8/06 | Sun – Wed
Girls ages 10 – 18
$375 Commuter | $450 Resident

Wolverine Elite Camp
6/13 – 6/14 | Fri – Sat
Girls entering grades 9-12
$200 Commuter | $250 Resident

Information

Instruction by U-M coaches and players at Crisler Center and William Davidson Player Development Center. All camps open to any and all entrants.

register online

www.michiganwbasketballcamps.com

Style Beyond Style

Drummer Tom Rainey & saxophonist Ingrid Laubrock

Modern jazz is a messy business. There are traditionalists who steadfastly reproduce the sounds of yesteryear, dedicated to preserving and strictly adhering to a narrowly perceived tradition. But there is another world of jazz-related music in which there are no boundaries, be they stylistic or national; in which any instrument, any sound, and any technique is permissible.

One of the centers of such eclectic creativity is often referred to as "the downtown scene," in reference to a general area of New York City, even though these days most of the musicians and many of the venues they work in have moved to Brooklyn and elsewhere. Tom Rainey is one of the most original and in-demand drummers among this loose group of musicians. He has performed with just about everyone on the downtown scene and has played in Ann Arbor countless times with many traveling groups. He has developed a distinctive drumming style, with a personal sound and an almost ragged way with rhythm that constantly plays with the beat and yet complements the music in unique ways.

A few years ago he teamed up with a new saxophone player who had recently arrived from London, and soon they were not only playing everywhere together but also married. Ingrid Laubrock, raised in Germany but musically trained in Britain, has been in New York for less than a decade but has quickly become everyone's favorite tenor and soprano saxophonist. Laubrock developed a solid musical foundation in London and a wonderful sense of sound on the saxophone. Her first two records were somewhat traditional, often employing Brazilian and pop elements, but already revealed elements of a more probing musical intelligence and demonstrated her mastery of saxophone timbre. Soon her music, on recordings at least, moved in more experimental directions, and by the time she came to New York in 2008, she was ready to play with the best musicians on the downtown scene. Soon she was in many different bands and was leading her own groups.

The collaboration between Rainey and Laubrock seems to bring out the best in both. Rainey, after many years as a sideman, has begun working as a leader; his most recent recording is a fabulous, quirky, avant-garde reworking of jazz standards in which melodies and harmonies shift between tradition and innovation, while Laubrock's flexible and ringing saxophone explores the full spectrum of sonic possibilities. At heart she is a melodist, and no matter how far she stretches the aural palate of her instruments, she always tells musical stories. Their newest collaboration is a simple duo, exploring pure improvisation at its best. They perform at Kerrytown Concert House on May 16.

—Piotr Michalowski

p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $10. 408–1829.

Laszlo Slomovits: Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth Cafe 704 Coffeehouse. This veteran local folk musician is joined by several musician friends to perform a concert dedicated to the memory of his late wife, flutist Helen Slomovits. With his brother, singer-guitarist San Slomovits, and San's daughter, singer-violinist Emily Slomovits, along with harmonica wiz Peter Madcat Ruth, percussionists Lori Fithian and Jean Chorazyczewski, and Laura Massaro, harpist Laurel Federbush, cellists Ken Ishii and Martin Torch-Ishii, and bassist Eric Fithian. The program includes Helen's songs, Laz's settings of the medieval Sufi poetry of Rumi and Hafiz, and pieces by each of the guest musicians. Proceeds to benefit the local family-oriented homeless shelter, Alpha House. *8–10 p.m., Interfaith Center for Spiritual Growth, 704 Airport Blvd. $8 ($15 for 2). 327–0270.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Noises Off": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 8 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Tracey MacDonald: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 8 Thursday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Thom Pain (based on nothing)": Emergent Arts. See 9 Friday. 9 p.m

11 SUNDAY (MOTHER'S DAY)

★**"Hudson Mills Metropark": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** WAS member Karen Markey leads a hike to look for a variety of birds usually found in the park, including cuckoos, ruby-throated hummingbirds, woodpeckers, vireos, flycatchers, thrushes, warblers, tanagers, and more. Bring a beverage; insect repellent recommended. *7:30–11 a.m., meet at the flagpole in front of the Hudson Mills Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. Free. $7 vehicle entrance fee. 994–3569.*

★**Bicycle Training Rides for Teens: Ann Arbor Velo Club.** *Every Sat. beginning May 11.* Teens ages 14–18 invited for a challenging but fun 20-mile ride to Dexter and back. Also, a mountain bike ride of 1–2 hours on dirt roads. Riders age 15 & under must be accompanied by a parent. All riders need a parent to sign a waiver at the first ride and wear a helmet. Bring a water bottle. *9 a.m., Forsythe Middle School, 1655 Newport. Free. Preregistration required via email to rvb@umich.edu. aavc.org.*

"Athleta Unleash the She": Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance/Athleta. All women invited to run 5-km and 10-km races. Door prizes. Proceeds benefit the Michigan Ovarian Cancer Alliance. *9 a.m., Huron High School, 2727 Fuller. $45–$50 in advance at unleashtheshe.com/ann-arbor.html. (507) 664–9438.*

"Mother's Day Tea": TeaHaus. A full English tea with finger sandwiches, scones, and dessert. *10 a.m. and 1 & 4 p.m., TeaHaus, 204 N. Fourth Ave. $28 (kids age 12 & under, $14). Reservations required. 622–0460.*

★**"The Road to the 'Great War' (1914–1918)": Ann Arbor Unitarian Fellowship.** Talk by AAUF member Dieter Vincent, a U-M nuclear engineering professor emeritus. *10 a.m., Turner Senior Resource Center, Suite C, 2401 Plymouth. Free. 971–8638.*

★**"Spring Fling Regatta": U-M Sailing Club.** All invited to watch races between club members and others who want to enter (it's free) in sailboats up to 18 feet long. *10 a.m., Baseline Lake, 8010 Strawberry Lake Rd., left from Mast off North Territorial. Free. Preregistration requested by emailing fsleon@gmail.com. 426–0920.*

"Mother's Day Wildflower Hike": Leslie Science and Nature Center. All invited to bring their moms for a guided wildflower hike through Black Pond Woods and the LSNC grounds. *1–2:30 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. $5 (moms, free). Space limited; preregistration recommended. 997–1533.*

★**Half Moon Lake Hike: Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Guest hike leader Barry Lonik leads a 7-mile hike around Half Moon Lake and Blind Lake, crossing the Portage River twice on tall wooden bridges. *1 p.m., meet at Zingerman's Roadhouse (2501 Jackson Rd.) to carpool. Free. 677–0823.*

"Coffee and Food Pairings": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee staff discuss and offer samples of foods that go best with some of their coffees. *1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $30. 929–6060.*

★**"Engaging with Art": UMMA.** *May 11, 18, & 25.* Docents lead tours of the UMMA collection, with themes based on their interests. *1 p.m. UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** All parents invited to bring their kids, from infants to 5-year-olds, for a program of music and dancing presented by Kindermusik teacher Denise Owens. *1–1:40 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

"Tea with the Fairies": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room. Crazy Wisdom staff dress up as magical fairies to sprinkle fairy dust and serve tea, petits fours, and cookies to kids and their families. Also, fairy stories and readings. Bring your own fairy wings and dolls. *1 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. $11 (babies age 18 months & younger, free). Preregistration required. 665–9468.*

"Fun and Friendly English Dance": Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. New Jersey caller Judi Rivkin leads dances to live music by Steve Schneider, Martha Stokely, and Anne Ogren. *1:30–4:30 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10. (248) 288–4737.*

"April Showers and May Flowers": Ann Arbor Concert Band. James Nissen conducts this local volunteer ensemble in Grainger's whimsical "Children's March" and "Lincolnshire Posy," Whitacre's "Cloudburst," Iannaccone's poignant "After a Gentle Rain," Copland's "Hoedown," and others. Also, clarinetist **Allen Chang,** the 2014 Andrew J. Lum & David R. Juillet Young Artist Scholarship Competition Winner, performs Weber's Concertino. *2 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $10 (students & seniors, $5; kids age 12 & under, free). aaband.org, 478–7515.*

★**"Paphiopedilums with Graham Wood": Ann Arbor Orchid Society.** Talk by Lehua Orchids (HI) Graham Wood. Also, orchid and supplies sale, show and tell, and a raffle. *2–5 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free. Metered parking. 647–7600, annarbororchids@aol.com.*

★**"An Eye on the Empire": UMMA.** *May 11 & 25.* Docent-guided tour of the current exhibit of photographs of colonial India and Egypt by famous Victorian-era photographers such as Francis Frith and Samuel Bourne. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**Shape Note Singing: Ann Arbor Sacred Harp.** All invited to join an afternoon of shape note, or sacred harp, singing, a form of communal hymn singing that has its roots in colonial America. Sacred Harp songbooks available, but singers encouraged to bring their own. *2–5 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Free, but donations accepted for music scholarships. 678–7549, 761–1451.*

"Noises Off": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre. See 8 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Thom Pain (based on nothing)": Emergent Arts. See 9 Friday. 4 p.m.

"Ann Arbor (Mostly) Acoustic Jam": Ann Arbor Senior Center. *May 11 & 25.* All singers, acoustic & electric guitarists, bassists, mandolinists, banjoists, ukulele players, percussionists, keyboardists, and other musicians invited to join organizer Michael Niemi to play folk, rock, country, or original tunes. Bring a music stand and copies of sheet music. Listeners welcome. *7–9 p.m., Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). Preregistration required for musicians at meetup.com/Ann-Arbor-Acoustic-Jam. 794–6250.*

"Lady Grey (in ever lower light)": Emergent Arts. See 9 Friday. 7 p.m.

12 MONDAY

★**Socrates Café: Ann Arbor Senior Center.** *May 12 & 26.* All ages invited to join a philosophical discussion that draws on the Socratic method of questioning underlying assumptions. *10:30–11:30 a.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

"Changing Patterns": Ann Arbor Fiber Arts Guild. St. Mary's College (Notre Dame) art professor Julie Tourtillotte shows and discusses her fabric works, drawings, and prints. *6:30 p.m., Zion Lu-*

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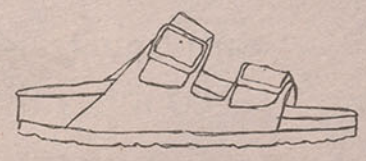

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TechTwilight

Nerdlicious fun

My memories of the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum begin in the old museum's preschool room, with my toddlers crawling on and around the big red fire truck, trying on different firefighter coats, and cooking up strange concoctions in the play kitchen. But as the children have grown up, so has the way we love our museum.

TechTwilight is an evening of nerdlicious fun for all ages featuring more than thirty local tech companies and nonprofits showing off their latest innovations and interactive technologies, sharing their excitement about science and technology with the community, and fundraising to support the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum and its mission to educate young people about science, technology, engineering, art, and math.

As we walked up to the museum, we first encountered "The Digital Bus," a traveling co-working space and Internet café housed in a bright orange 1972 VW Bus. We stopped to check out the bus but ended up talking digital marketing and web design.

We passed the some homemade Segway-like creations in the lobby and skipped up the singing steps, pausing only long enough to play one favorite melody; then we entered the familiar space of the museum, now transformed by (more than the usual number of) techies and nerds. And robots! Yay, even the makers were there. Vibrant live music and the most amazing Southwestern food kept the mood bright.

Every room was filled with tables of tech stuff—some a messy jumble of wires and circuits, others exuding the cool precision of scientists in white lab coats, and everywhere a vibrant buzz of discovery. We built small rockets and launched them two at a time to see whose rocket flew the furthest. We watched Bristlebots battle each other and navigate mazes. We blew up balloons with baking soda and vinegar. We made molecules with toothpicks and marshmallows. We examined a deconstructed television set and computer. We watched interactive educational videos. We talked with longhaired techies in plaids about all the off-the-grid tech workshops hidden around town where children and teenagers can get their hands dirty. There were labs where kids could dissect a squid, make slime, or make a stop-action animated film on an iPad. And experiment with dry ice. Dry ice is always cool.

As we walked out into the lengthening twilight, we kept hearing mechanical sounds, as if the evening was still following us. We finally turned and found that we were indeed being followed—by robots, also heading home after a long day of science fun.

This year's TechTwilight is May 16.

—Frances Kai-Hwa Wang

theran Church, 1601 W. Liberty. $5 (members, free). annarborfiberartsguild.org.

★**Book Discussion: Nicola's Books.** Representatives from 4 major publishing houses discuss their new titles. 20% discount on books discussed. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**"Michigan at Gettysburg": Ann Arbor Civil War Round Table.** Talk by MSU history professor Roger Rosentreter. *7 p.m., St. Joseph Mercy Hospital Administrative Bldg. meeting room near the auditorium, 5305 Elliott Dr. (off McAuley Dr. from Huron River Dr.). Free. (517) 750–2741.*

★**Arborsong Chamber Choir: Kerrytown Concert House.** Jane Panikkar directs this Concordia University student choir in a program of chamber works TBA. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

13 TUESDAY

★**"More Than Honey": Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers.** Green Toe Gardens (Detroit) apiary founder Rich Wieske discusses other products that come from beehives besides honey. Also, a discussion of how to split hives. Q&A. *6:30–7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. meghanom@gmail.com.*

★**Fantasy and Science Fiction/Theory Reading Group: U-M English Department.** All age 21 & over invited to discuss ***Angelmaker,*** Nick Harkaway's acclaimed fantasy about a clock repairer who stumbles upon a super weapon and unwittingly gets tangled up with quirky groups vying for its use. *7–9 p.m., 3184 Angell Hall. Free. 764–2553.*

★**"The Amazing Benefits of a Raw Vegan Diet": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local raw foods advocate Ellen Livingston. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994–4589.*

★**"The Love, Lure, and Lore of the Clothesline": Pittsfield Union Grange.** Talk by line-drying enthusiast Anne Lawrence. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by a potluck. *7:15 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. Free. 769–1052.*

★**Huron Valley Rose Society.** Club members discuss the art and practice of growing roses and new rose varieties. Refreshments. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 647–7600.*

★**"Windfall: The Booming Business of Global Warming": Sierra Club Book Club.** All invited to discuss McKenzie Funk's book about entrepreneurs who are trying to profit from climate change. *7:30 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–1157.*

★**Student Jazz Showcase: Ann Arbor School for the performing Arts.** Performances by 2 AASPA student jazz ensembles, **Free Popcorn, One Dollar** and **The Jazz Berries.** *8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 213–2000.*

14 WEDNESDAY

★**"Visions 2014 Vendor Fair: What's New in Technology and Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired": Ann Arbor District Library.** Displays and demos, by a variety of vendors from around the state, of electronic readers, magnifiers, support services for the blind, Braille devices, library services, CCTVs, leader dogs, transportation services, and more. Also, talks on related issues. *10 a.m.–3 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 Huron River Dr. Free. 327–4555.*

"Stem Cells: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly": U-M Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Distinguished Lecture Series. Talk by U-M Medical School neurology professor Eva Feldman. Last in a series of 9 monthly lectures. *10–11:30 a.m., Clarion Hotel & Conference Center, 2900 Jackson Rd. $65 (members, $45) for the 9-lecture series. Memberships are $20 a year. $10 per lecture for members. 998–9351.*

Native Plant Exchange and Sale: Wild Ones. All invited to bring in plants to swap with other local gardeners. Also, sale of native plants. *6 p.m., Native Plant Nursery, 3052 Nordman (entrance is on Butternut, just off Nordman, south off Packard just west of Platt). Free admission. 604–4674.*

"La Cenerentola": Quality 16. See 10 Saturday. 6:30–10:10 p.m.

"An Evening with Domaine Carneros": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young is joined by Domaine Carneros (Napa, CA) founding winemaker Eileen Crane, dubbed "America's doyenne of Sparkling Wine," for a meal with a menu to complement the winery's signature sparkling wine and its pinot noir, Young's favorite wine. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $90 includes wine pairings. Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

★**"Drummunity!"** Lori Fithian, a local drummer and drum teacher, leads a drum circle. Instruments provided, or bring your own. Kids welcome. Preceded at 6:45 p.m. by a brief drum lesson. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore, 114 S. Main. Free. 426–7818.*

★**Channeled Spiritual Discussion Group: Deep Spring Center.** All invited to share their spiritual and metaphysical questions with others with similar interests. The evening is led by Aaron, a "being of light" channeled by Barbara Brodsky, who offers a talk on a variety of spiritual practices. Q&A. Also, socializing. *7–9:30 p.m., Deep Spring Center, 3820 Packard, suite 280. Free, but donations are accepted. 477–5848.*

★**"Joy, Inc: How We Built a Workplace People Love": Bookbound.** Menlo Innovations CEO and cofounder **Rich Sheridan** discusses his book about how other organizations can follow this local company's methods for creating a joyful and profitable business. Signing. *7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★**Sheryl WuDunn: Center for the Education of Women.** Talk by this journalist, the first Asian American reporter to win a Pulitzer Prize and coauthor of the best-selling *Half the Sky: Turning Oppression into Opportunity for Women Worldwide.* Part of the 3-day conference Women and Economic Security: Changing Policy and Practice. *7 p.m., Rackham Auditorium. Free, but preregistration required at tinyurl.com/wudunnkeynote. edermont@umich.edu.*

★**John Corey Whaley: Ann Arbor District Library.** This young adult fiction writer, author of the award-winning *Where Things Come Back,* discusses his new novel ***Noggin,*** a touching and hilarious coming-of-age fantasy. Signing. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL Pittsfield Branch, 2359 Oak Valley Dr. between Scio Church Rd. and Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 327–8301.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** All invited to read and discuss their poetry or short stories. Bring about 6 copies of your work to share. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free 665–2757.*

★**History Readers Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** Group member Judith Rose leads a discussion of ***Dan Rice: The Most Famous Man You've Never Heard of,*** David Carlyon's biography of the popular 19th-century circus performer who once ran for president. *7:30 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 369–2499.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

15 THURSDAY

★**"Infant Music, Movement, and Play: Nurturing Baby and You": Ann Arbor District Library.** Local early childhood educator Gari Stein, director of Music for Little Folks, presents a program of play, movement, and touch for 3-month-olds through pre-walkers (accompanied by an adult). *10–10:40 a.m., AADL youth story corner, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**30th Annual Ann Arbor Springtime Invitational Figure Skating Championship: Ann Arbor Figure Skating Club.** *May 15–18.* More than 800 skaters ages 6 to adult compete in solo, pairs, couples, and ice dancing categories in this USFSA-sanctioned competition. Full schedule available at annarborfsc.com. *10 a.m.–9 p.m. (May 15), 8 a.m.–9 p.m. (May 16 & 17), & 8 a.m.–3 p.m. (May 18), Ann Arbor Ice Cube, 2121 Oak Valley Dr. Free. 213–6768.*

★**Temple Beth Emeth Spirituality Book Club.** *May 15 & 20 (choose one).* All invited to discuss rabbi Amy Hirshberg Lederman's ***One God, Many Paths: Finding Meaning and Inspiration in Jewish Teachings.*** *Noon–1 p.m. (May 15) & 7:30–9 p.m. (May 20), TBE, 2309 Packard. Free. cantorannie@gmail.com, 665–4744.*

★**"National Flowers: Significance and Symbolism": International Neighbors.** All area women encouraged to learn about the meanings behind a variety of national flowers from around the world. Nursery care provided for preschoolers. Refreshments. *1–2:30 p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church social hall, 1500 Scio Church Rd. Free. 995–1645.*

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August 3–5
Boys & Girls, Grades 1–8

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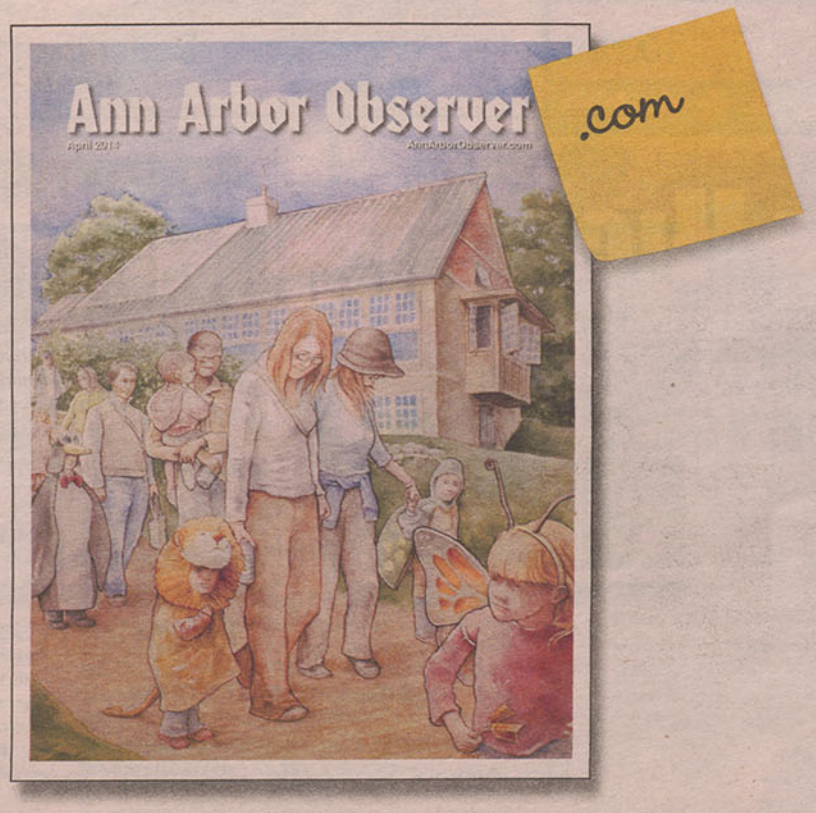

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★**"Third Thursday in the Clark Library": U-M Hatcher Grad Library.** Display of local and WWII maps in conjunction with the two current exhibits, *Place: Ann Arbor* and *A Community for Victory: Ann Arbor in World War Two. 4–7 p.m., Hatcher Library 2nd floor, enter from the Diag. Free. 647–0646.*

"19th Annual Dining for Dollars": HIV/AIDS Resource Center Fundraiser. Dinner, a silent auction, and raffles. Homemade ice cream sundae bar. *6 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Tickets $125 ($100 per person for groups of 4 or more) in advance at hivaidsresource.org/dining-for-dollars or by phone. 572–9355.*

★**"Foster Care in Washtenaw County": Ann Arbor District Library.** Panel discussion with Washtenaw County service providers involved in the foster care system. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

★**"Finding the Wreck of the Griffon": Michigan Archaeological Society.** Michigan State Archaeologist Dean Anderson discusses the ship that launched from Green Bay, WI, in 1679 and was never seen again. *7:30 p.m., U-M Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, 434 S. State. Free. (248) 437–4183.*

"Fairytale Family Vacation": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. *May 15–18.* Katherine Altman directs young local actors in local playwright Emilio Rodriguez's comedy that lampoons road-trip movies and classic fairytales. *7:30 p.m. (May 15–17) & 1 p.m. (May 18), WCC College Theatre (room 175 in the Liberal Arts Bldg.), 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Tickets $8 (kids, $5) in advance and at the door. 971–2228.*

Barbara Payton & the Instigators: Music Under the Arch. Band led by Detroit rock and soul singer Payton, winner of several 2013 Detroit Music Awards. Snacks & beverages. *7:30 p.m., Stone Arch Arts & Events, 117 S. Ann Arbor St., Saline. Tickets $20 in advance only at musicunderthearch.com. 787–1428.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Julien Labro & the Spektral Quartet: Kerrytown Concert House. Respected accordion and bandoneon player Labro and the Chicago-based chamber ensemble Spektral Quartet celebrate the release of their album *From This Point Forward,* which features original compositions that blend jazz, classical, and tango music, as well as arrangements of songs by Hermeto Pascoal, Heitor Villa-Lobos, and Astor Piazzolla. The Spektral Quartet includes violinists Aurelien Fort Pederzoli and Austin Wulliman, violist Doyle Armbrust, and cellist Russell Rolen. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 7 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

16 FRIDAY

★**"Fix-It Friday": Maker Works.** All invited to bring anything that needs fixing—chairs, sweaters, radios, and more. Maker Works members will be on hand to help fix things. Refreshments. *4–6 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd. north of Ellsworth). Free. 222–4911.*

"Venus Rising: 2nd Annual All Women Art Exhibition": Fancy Pants Arts & Entertainment/Community Rebirth. Show and sale of work by local artists. Also, painting demos, performance art, body painting, silent auction, craft sale, raffles, and more. Partial proceeds benefit LACASA Center for victims of abuse. *5–10 p.m., The Yellow Barn, 416 W. Huron. $10 admission. 926–9629.*

★**Bird Walk: Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation/Huron River Watershed Council.** City ornithologist Dea Armstrong leads a bird identification walk through Gallup Park and Furstenberg Nature Area. Bring binoculars, if you have them. *6–7:30 p.m., meet at Gallup Park Canoe Livery dock, 3000 Fuller Rd. (west side of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 794–6240.*

"Spring Fling": Pattengill & Bryant Elementary Schools. Joint ice cream social with carnival games & treats. *6:30–8:30 p.m., Pattengill, 2100 Crestland Dr. off Packard south of Stadium. Free admission; nominal charge for food & games. 994–1961.*

"TechTwilight": Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum. *See review, p. 86.* Interactive displays by local innovators, science-themed kids activities, and a chance to meet techies, scientists, and entrepreneurs. *6:30–9 p.m., AAHOM, 220 E. Ann. Tickets $11 (students, $5) in advance at http://ow.ly/vMcaJ. 995–5439.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Young People's Theater. *May 16–18.* Jayme Kelmigian and Jake McClory direct young local actors in the classic Harold Arlen and Yip Harburg musical adaptation of Frank Baum's ever-popular fantasy about a young girl's roundabout journey to her heart's desire. The familiar score features "Over the Rainbow," "Follow the Yellow Brick Road," "We're Off to See the Wizard," and more.

A Winter's Journey

Baritone Jesse Blumberg & pianist Martin Katz

Calmly focused, Jesse Blumberg stands gazing into the audience, his eyes agleam with a warmly arresting intelligence. Songs composed in the 1820s have taken root within this man; he is dedicating part of his life to their interpretation. Martin Katz dissolves the silence by sinking his fingers into the piano, and the veil of a song cycle begins to unfurl.

It is not necessary to understand German to enjoy and be moved by a lieder recital. While it's important to educate yourself and learn the stories to be told, the deepest comprehension really happens when you listen with your heart. If the thought of Franz Schubert's *Winterreise* being performed close on the heels of one of the most punishing winters in memory provokes a wry smile, the realities behind the music are sobering. Wilhelm Müller, whose moody verses describe the *Winter Journey*, died just short of his thirty-third birthday without ever hearing them set to music. Schubert, equally young, composed the work while gradually perishing from a sexually transmitted disease. "There is no sentimental slush here," wrote scholar and master vocalist Dietrich Fischer-Dieskau of the *Winterreise*, "only the naked truth." The *Winter Journey* is a psychological slog through the dark night of the soul with only a moon-cast shadow for a companion.

Rejected by his fiancée and her family, a jilted lover shoulders his pack and hikes out of town in the dead of night, stopping to mutter angrily at a weathervane before plodding over the frozen countryside past landmarks recalling happier times. Anyone whose emotional state has ever triggered a trek of this sort knows how it feels to hit the trail driven by feelings so powerful that trails themselves are soon abandoned for stubborn plunges into the thicket. This is a landscape of heart and mind with almost surreal overtones, where linden trees speak, will-o'-the-wisps beckon, a cemetery resembles a small hotel, and crows punctuate the night with their hollow commentary. Come morning, when three suns appear in the sky, our wanderer is witnessing what the old folks call sun dogs. Scientists use the term parhelion to describe a trick of light refracted through diamond dust ice particles dancing in the frigid atmosphere. Schubert and Müller's *Winter Journey* concludes with a scene right out of an early Werner Herzog movie, as the exhausted traveler asks a barefoot elderly homeless man who stands turning the crank of a hurdy-gurdy on the outskirts of town: "Shall I join you? Will you grind the organ while I sing?"

Jesse Blumberg and Martin Katz perform Franz Schubert's *Winterreise* at Kerrytown Concert House on May 17.

—arwulf arwulf

7 p.m. (May 16 & 17), 1 p.m. (May 17), & 2 p.m. (May 18), Power Center. Tickets $15 (youth age 18 & under and seniors age 65 and over, $10) in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office, mutotix.umich.edu, & by phone. 763–TKTS.

★Ann Arbor Kirtan. All invited to join a group performance of this traditional devotional call-and-response music based on Hindu Vaishnava texts and the writings of poet-saints. Accompanied by live music based on rhythmic Indian ragas on bass guitar, tabla, and drums. *7:30–9:30 p.m., Friends Meetinghouse, 1420 Hill St. Free, but donations accepted. 761–7435.*

Student Productions: Pioneer High School Theater Guild. *May 16 & 17.* Pioneer High School students perform several of their original short plays. *7:30 p.m., Pioneer High School Little Theater, 601 W. Stadium at Main. $10. 994–2120.*

"Macbeth": Young Actors Guild. *May 16–18.* Young local actors perform Shakespeare's bloody tale of a Scottish lord and his ambitious wife. *7:30 p.m. (May 16 & 17) & 2 p.m. (May 17 & 18), Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 North University. Tickets $10 (seniors age 55 & over and kids age 11 & under, $5) in advance at aayag.org, & at the door. 926–5629.*

"Fairytale Family Vacation": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

"Concert4aCause": Northside Community Church/First Baptist Church. The program features classical music by African American composers, including works by William Grant Still, Blind Tom Wiggins Bethune, Adolphus Hailstork, Margaret Bonds, and Florence Price, along with traditional spirituals. Performers include tenors George Shirley and Jordan Harris, sopranos Caroline Helton and Imani Mchunu, baritone Sam Kidd, organist Shin-Ae Chun, pianists Jeanette Fang and Kathryn Goodson, saxophonist John Mamish, and the combined NCC and FBC bell and adult vocal choirs. Reception follows. Proceeds benefit U-M voice professor emeritus George Shirley's African American Art Song and Aria Competition. (see 24 Sunday listing). *8 p.m., First Baptist Church, 512 E Huron. Donation. 663–6091.*

Ballroom Dance Party: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Waltz, cha cha, rumba, swing, tango, and other ballroom dancing to recorded music. Bring food or drinks to share, if you wish. Preceded at 7 p.m. by a bachata lesson. *8–10 p.m., 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $10 ($15 includes lesson; those with May birthdays, free). 644–1485.*

"We Are the Dreamers of Dreams": Out Loud Chorus. *May 16 & 17.* Paul Haebig directs this chorus for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people and their friends in a program of songs celebrating aspirations for a better world for everyone. With accompaniment by bassist Edie Herrold, percussionist Tamara Perkuhn, and pianist Annie Jeng. *8 p.m., Michigan Union Anderson Room. $15 (students, $12; kids under 4, free) in advance at Common Language Books, olconline.org, & from Out Loud members; $18 at the door. 265–0740.*

Michael Johnson: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). A veteran folk-based pop singer and virtuoso guitarist who started out (with John Denver) as a member of a late–60s incarnation of the Chad Mitchell Trio, Johnson has scored in a number of different genres, including adult contemporary in the late 70s and contemporary country in the mid 80s. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $15 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance at greenwoodcoffeehouse.org and at the door. 665–8558.*

Ingrid Laubrock & Tom Rainey: Kerrytown Concert House. *See review, p. 85.* This talented duo of New York–based clarinetist-saxophonist Laubrock and drummer Rainey celebrates the release of *And Other Desert Towns,* its collection of improvisational songs featuring the subtlety and emotional expression of Laubrock's playing with Rainey's versatile approach and irregular rhythms. The album bristles with "radical new geometries of sound that connect at unforeseen points in shapes that defy description," writes a *Jazz Right Now* blog reviewer. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jef Brannan: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 16 & 17.* This Detroit comic is known for a fast-paced, good-natured show that mixes song parodies with lots of raunchy one-liners, jokes, and jabs at his audience. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty. $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

★Angell Hall Observatory Open House: U-M Student Astronomical Society. *Tentative.* All invited to peer through the telescopes in the observatory and on the Angell Hall roof and to view shows in the planetarium. Also, short astronomy presentations by club members. *10 p.m.–midnight, 5th floor rooftop observatory, Angell Hall (enter through Haven Hall on the Diag side of the building). Free. 764–3440.*

17 SATURDAY

★7th Annual Car Show: Varsity Ford. Classic car owners invited to display their rides. Trophies for winners in various categories; dash plaques for first 300 cars on display. All invited to cruise through the exhibit or view it on foot. Proceeds benefit U-M Mott Children's Hospital. *8 a.m.–4 p.m. (swap setup, 7 a.m.), Varsity Ford, 3480 Jackson Rd. Free admission; donations accepted. 996–2300.*

"35th Annual Walk & Wag & Run": Huron Valley Humane Society Benefit. About 300 local dogs usually attend this fundraising 1-mile walk and dog activity and game fest. Also, a 5-km run, kids' activities, contests, giveaways, and more. Food available. *8 a.m.–1 p.m., Rolling Hills County Park, 7660 Stony Creek Rd. between Merritt & Bemis rds., east of Carpenter, Ypsilanti. $30 (walk) or $50 (run) registration fee (family of 4 or more, $120). Registration required at hshv.org. 662–5585.*

5K Fun Run & Family Walk: The Kite Network. Noncompetitive 5-km run and a 1-mile walk. Proceeds benefit the Kite Network, a peer-to-peer grief counseling organization. *9 a.m. (registration begins at 7 a.m.), Hudson Mills Metropark Activity Center, 8801 North Territorial Rd. (between Dexter-Pinckney Rd. & Huron River Dr.), Dexter. $30 for 5-km run & $15 for 1-mile walk in advance by May 14 at thekitenetwork.com, $35 for 5-km run & $20 for 1-mile walk day of race. $5 vehicle entry fee. 975–0238.*

★"Anchored: Rooted in His Love—Grounded in His Word": Ann Arbor Aglow Lighthouse. Talk by Desert Voice Ministries director Jen Lombardo. Refreshments. *9:30 a.m.–noon, 340 WCC Liberal Arts Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free. 971–4545.*

Sue Holdaway-Heys: Greater Ann Arbor Quilt Guild. Talk by this local quilter, who makes gorgeous, intricate art quilts. Followed at 11 a.m. by a member show & tell. *9:45 a.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg., 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10 (members, free). (248) 349–7322.*

★Grange Junior Makers: Pittsfield Grange. Kids, accompanied by a participating adult, invited to work on electronics, robotics, and woodworking projects. Today's project TBA. *10 a.m.–noon, Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.). Free. 926–5079.*

"How Does Your Garden Grow?": U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens. All kids, accompanied by a parent, invited to learn how to grow a vegetable garden anywhere, to decorate a small pot, and to transfer seedlings to take home. *10 a.m.–noon, Matthaei, 1800 N. Dixboro. $8 per child; preregistration recommended. Metered parking. 647–7600.*

★Death Café. All invited to join a frank conversation about death led by participants. Hosted by After Death Home Care founder Merilynne Rush. Tea & cake served. *10 a.m.–noon, Crazy Wisdom Tearoom, 114 S. Main. Free. 395–9660.*

★"Picnic Pops": Pioneer High School. An all-day outdoor musical bonanza of performances by local middle and high school bands and orchestras. Games and prizes. Hot dogs, pizza, popcorn, and ice cream available. Rain or shine. Limited seating provided; bring something to sit on if you wish. *10 a.m.–6 p.m., PHS, 601 W. Stadium at S. Main. Free admission. 996–3210.*

★Butterfly Festival: U-M Natural History Museum. A variety of family-oriented activities, including displays of live Monarch butterflies and of their life cycle and a chance to examine butterfly and moth wings through a microscope and to make yourself a pair of butterfly wings. Also, weather permitting, a visit to the museum's butterfly garden to plant new

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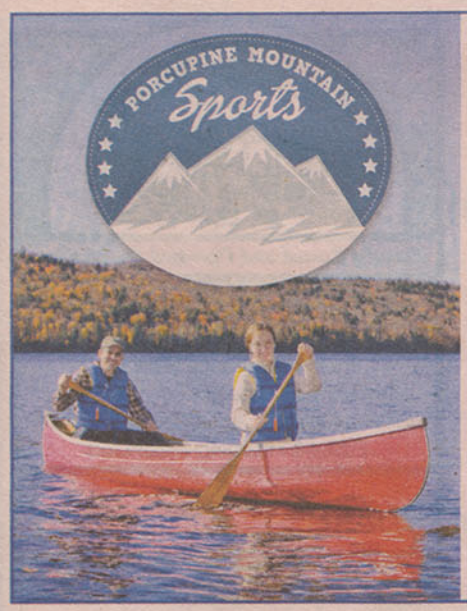

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perennials. *10 a.m.–2 p.m., Natural History Museum, 1109 Geddes at North University. Free. 764–0478.*

★"Indies First Storytime Day": Nicola's Books. Local children's writers **Shutta Crum** and **Shanda Trent** read from some of their favorite books. Part of a nationwide storytime event. *11 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"West Side Neighborhood Art Hop." The homes and studios of several west-side artists are open for a show and sale of their art and craft items. Live music at some venues. *Noon–5 p.m., venues and map available at facebook.com/WestsideNeighborhoodArtHop and westsidearthop.wordpress.com. Free admission. 996–0702.*

★"Inequality for All": Social Justice Council/ Challenging Racism/League of Women Voters/Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice. Screening of Jacob Kornbluth's 2013 documentary about the widening income disparity in the U.S. Followed by facilitated small group discussions on various topics in the film. *1–4 p.m., First Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 4001 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. Free. 663–1870.*

★"Duct Tape Balls": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids in grades K–8 invited to use duct tape to make a lightweight playground ball that can stand lots of kicking. *3–4 p.m AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Spring Concert: Dance Alliance Repertory Company. *May 17 & 18.* Company dancers and students perform ballet, tap, jazz, modern, lyrical, hip-hop, and other dance styles. *3 & 7 p.m. (May 17) and 1 & 4 p.m. (May 18), Ellen Ewing Performing Arts Center, Saline High School, 1300 Campus Pkwy., Saline. Tickets $13 in advance at Dance Alliance (811 W. Michigan, Saline), and at the door. 429–9599.*

★"A2 Family Potluck Backyard Bash": Acorn Glen Cooperative Preschool. Live music and indoor and outdoor kids activities. Bring a dish to pass, if you wish. *4–7 p.m., Acorn Glen, 1547 Miller. Free. 585–5555.*

★Joshua Ferris: Nicola's Books. This National Book Award finalist, author of *Then We Came to the End,* reads from ***To Rise Again at a Decent Hour,*** his new novel about a guy, plagued by the contradictions of his personality, who watches in outrage as his identity is stolen online and then in horror as the thief becomes a better version of the real thing. Signing. Preceded by a book club discussion with Ferris (preregistration required). *4 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

May Dinner/Dance: Greater Beneficial Union. Prime rib, baked potato, mixed vegetables, rolls and butter, and torte. Coffee, beer, wine, champagne, and pop. Followed by dancing to German music by the Rheinlanders. Raffles and crowning of a "May Queen." In celebration of the club's 90th anniversary. *6–11 p.m., Grotto Club, 2070 W. Stadium. $35. Reservations required by May 15. 913–9371, 954–0057.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Dancing to recorded music. No partner needed; beginners welcome. The program begins with a lesson. *7–10 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $5 (students, $3). 709–8748.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Young People's Theater. See 16 Friday. 1 & 7 p.m.

"26th Annual Spring Concert": Measure for Measure. Pioneer High School vocal music director Steve Lorenz conducts this lively 90-member local men's chorus in an eclectic program highlighted by the world premiere of Michael Cox's "A Beautiful Thing," a work commissioned by chorus member Robert Pierce. Also, a performance by the **Dearborn High School Men's Ensemble.** *7:30 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Tickets $15 (students & seniors, $12) in advance at measure-for-measure.org & by phone, and at the door. 649–7664.*

"Macbeth": Young Actors Guild. See 16 Friday. 2 & 7:30 p.m.

"Fairytale Family Vacation": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Student Productions: Pioneer High School Theater Guild. See 16 Friday. 7:30 p.m.

3rd Saturday Contra Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. Peter Baker and Robin Warner call contras to live music by the Millers. No partner needed; beginners welcome. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes. Preceded by a lesson at 7:30 p.m. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $10 (members, $7; students, $5). 426–0241.*

Jesse Blumberg & Martin Katz: Kerrytown Concert House. *See review, p. 89.* The widely acclaimed NYC-based baritone Blumberg and pianist Katz—a U-M music professor dubbed "the gold standard of accompanists" by a *New York Times* reviewer—perform Franz Schubert's tragic song cycle *Winterreise,* whose libretto by Wilhelm Müller relates the heartbreak of a solitary traveler through a cruel winter landscape. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $20–$35 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"42nd Street": Ann Arbor in Concert. This local theater company performs a concert version of Michael Stewart and Mark Bramble's 30s-style song-and-dance extravaganza adapted from the 1933 Busby Berkeley movie with a classic backstage plot. The show features a variety of dance styles, with a heavy emphasis on tap, and the score is comprised of vintage Broadway songs, from "Shuffle Off to Buffalo" and "You're Getting to Be a Habit with Me" to "Lullaby of Broadway" and the title tune. *8 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $26.50 (students with ID & seniors, $16.50; VIP seats, $50; Gala reception, $100) in advance at a2ic.org. 786–3868.*

"We Are the Dreamers of Dreams": Out Loud Chorus. See 16 Friday. 8 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Jef Brannan: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 16 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

18 SUNDAY

★"Magee Marsh Wildlife Area": Washtenaw Audubon Society. WAS member Karen Markey leads a field trip to this Ohio state park 70 miles from Ann Arbor on the southern shore of Lake Erie to look for migrating warblers, flycatchers, sparrows, thrushes, and perhaps even some owls. Also, a short stop at the nearby Metzger Marsh. Bring a lunch and something to drink; insect repellant recommended. Late afternoon return. *5:50 a.m., meet at the park-and-ride lot at Plymouth and US-23, to carpool. Free. 994–3569.*

★Spring Event Derby: Cobblestone Farms. Each horse and rider competes in dressage, stadium jumping, and cross-country riding. *9 a.m.–late afternoon, Cobblestone Farms, 6301 Gregory Rd., Dexter. Free. 476–6972.*

27th Annual Michigan Vintage Volkswagen Festival: Michigan Vintage Volkswagen Club. Big display of around 400 of every sort of VW imaginable, from originals and race cars to dune buggies and trikes. Also, a swap meet and a Hot Wheels race track (bring a VW Hot Wheels car or use one provided). Rain or shine. Nonperishable food donations accepted for SOS Community Services. *9 a.m.–3 p.m., Riverside Park, Ypsilanti. $5 admission. Car entry fee: $12 in advance; $15 at the gate. mvvc.net.*

"Girls on the Run 5K": Girls on the Run in Southeastern Michigan. Noncompetitive 5-km run for girls ages 8–14 and parents, family members, teachers, and anyone else who wants to run with them. All finishers receive a medal. Preceded & followed by a **"Celebration Expo"** (7–8:15 & 9–11:30 a.m.) with live music, a bounce house, face painting, and other family-oriented activities. Food concessions. *9 a.m. (registration begins at 7 a.m.), EMU Convocation Center, 799 Hewitt, Ypsilanti. $25 (kids dash, free) in advance by May 14 at girlsontherunsemi.org, $30 day of race. 712–5640.*

36th Annual Ann Arbor Antiquarian Book Fair: Ann Arbor Antiquarian Booksellers Association. One of the country's top regional antiquarian fairs, with more than 40 dealers (including many new this year) from 8 states offering manuscripts, vintage photos and prints, antique maps, and a wide array of old, rare, curious, and fine books, including first editions, lots of collectible children's books, fine leather bindings, modern poetry, Michigan history, travel & exploration, illustrated books, photography, antique maps, cookbooks, and more. Admission charge benefits the U-M Clements Library. *11 a.m.–5 p.m., Michigan Union Ballroom. $5 donation. 995–1891.*

★"Mosaic Jewelry": Ann Arbor District Library. Mosaicgeek.com creator Shannon Kuchera shows adults and teens in grade 6 & up how to make delicate mosaics to wear as jewelry. Supplies provided. *12:30–2:30 p.m. & 3:30–5:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★"Chesstastic!": Ann Arbor District Library. All kids and adults invited to play chess. Sets provided. *1–4 p.m., AADL Traverwood Branch, 3333 Traverwood at Huron Pkwy. Free. 327–8301.*

"Fairytale Family Vacation": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre Junior Theatre. See 15 Thursday. 1 p.m.

"40th Anniversary Celebration": Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County. A chicken and pulled pork BBQ lunch from Satchel's BBQ, followed by a brief annual meeting and a talk by club president Marcia McCrary on **"The History of the Genealogical Society of Washtenaw County."** *1–4 p.m., WCC Student Center Bldg. community room, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. $10. Reservations required at washtenawgenealogy.org by May 8. 483–2799.*

★"Hunting for Animals, Large and Small": Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation Commission. WCPARC naturalist Faye Stoner leads a hike to look for signs of animals. *2–4 p.m., Miller-Smith Preserve, Parker Rd. dead-end at Dexter-Chelsea Rd., Lima Twp. Free. 971–6337, ext. 334.*

"Splash Day": Ann Arbor Parks & Recreation. A family-oriented afternoon of pool games and contests. Prizes. *2–4 p.m., Mack Indoor Pool, 715 Brooks. $5 (youth age 17 & under and seniors age 60 & older, $4). 794–6234.*

Family Dance: Pittsfield Union Grange. All kids, accompanied by an adult, invited for traditional dancing to live music. Grange-baked cookies. *2–4 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $12 per family. 769–1052.*

★**"Design + Architecture": UMMA.** Docent-guided tour of the new Design Gallery and the current exhibition of architectural designs by Robert Metcalf, a former U-M architecture dean, who's known for his mid-century modern houses. *2 p.m., UMMA, 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"Time to Remember Memorial Gathering": Ann Arbor District Library.** All invited to bring a photo of a loved one to display on a Memorial Table. Refreshments. *2–3:30 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

"Vibrational Intimacy: Discovering Your Personal Relationship with Healing Sound." Local musician Laurel Emrys performs harp and flute music and discusses her Full Spectrum Harmonics theory of healing sound. With audience participation. *2–5 p.m., Location TBA. $30. Reservations required. 761–7699.*

"The Wizard of Oz": Young People's Theater. See 16 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Macbeth": Young Actors Guild. See 16 Friday. 2 p.m.

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

★**"Preservation Clinic: Pass It on!": U-M Hatcher Grad Library.** U-M Library preservation and conservation experts are on hand to give advice about caring for treasured items, including audio and video recordings, books, diaries, genealogical info, letters, maps, photos, and more. *2:30–4:30 p.m., 100 Hatcher Library Gallery, enter from the Diag. Free. 764–6980.*

★**Brauer Preserve Hike: Huron Valley Sierra Club.** All invited to join club members on a moderately paced 2-mile hike on trails, sandy knolls, and wetlands in this 226-acre preserve that encompasses Lake Isabelle. Wear boots and bring water. *3 p.m., Brauer Preserve, meet at the entrance on the west side of Parker Rd. just south of Waters Rd. Free. 677–0823.*

★**Cooperative Outreach Music Program Recital: Ann Arbor School for the Performing Arts.** Performances by young local musicians who participate in an AASPA program that provides music instruction to under-resourced students. *3 p.m., First Baptist Church, 517 E. Washington. Free. 213–2000.*

★**"Love Illuminated: Exploring Life's Most Mystifying Subject (with the Help of 50,000 Strangers)": Ann Arbor District Library.** *New York Times* "Modern Love" columnist **Daniel Jones** discusses his new book. Signing. *3–4:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

"Schubert's Mass in G Major": St. Thomas Catholic Church. Lucia Campbell directs the church's adult and children's choirs in works by Schubert, Bach, and Handel. Accompanist is Hyewon Jung. *3 p.m., St. Thomas Catholic Church, Elizabeth at Kingsley. Freewill donation. 761–8606.*

Washtenaw Community Concert Band: First United Methodist Church. Chris Heidenreich directs this popular 70-piece ensemble in a program of concert favorites for large band, including the medleys *Glenn Miller in Concert, American Civil War Fantasy, Jersey Boys, What's Up at the Symphony (Bugs Bunny's Greatest Hits),* and Sousa's "The Thunderer." Followed by a lemonade & dessert reception. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. *3 p.m., FUMC lawn, 120 S. State. Freewill Offering. 662–4536, ext. 0.*

★**"Modern Food, Moral Food: Self-Control, Science, and the Rise of Modern American Eating in the Early Twentieth Century": Culinary Historians of Ann Arbor.** MSU history professor **Helen Zoe Veit** discusses her new book. *4–6 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. Free. 794–6250.*

"The Passing of the Year": Vocal Arts Ensemble. Ben Cohen directs this local 24-voice chamber choir in Jonathan Dove's sterling *The Passing of the Year* as well as works by Lassus, Britten, and Brahms that reflect both the ephemeral and the eternal. *4 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 306 N. Division. Tickets $20 (seniors age 65 & over and students, $15; kids age 12 & under, free) in advance at vocalartsannarbor.org.*

20th Anniversary Celebration: Interfaith Round Table of Washtenaw County. A full vegetarian dinner with music and other entertainment. *6–9 p.m., Chinma-*

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ya Avantika, 5760 Packard. $35. Reservations required by May 12 at iirtwc.org or by phone. 424–1535.

Steel City Rovers: Mangiamo Italian Grill Acoustic Routes Concert. Hamilton, Ontario, quintet whose Celtic-based original music also includes elements of French Canadian and Cape Breton fiddle styles, bluegrass, Appalachian, and country blues. In addition to the usual guitar, fiddle, accordion, and percussion, the band's equipment also features Scottish small pipes, tenor mandola, horse jaw, and other unusual instruments. *7:30 p.m., Mangiamo, 107 W. Michigan Ave, Saline. $15 by reservation and at the door. Preferred seating for dinner customers. 429–0060.*

"Chili Challis' UNclub Comedy Open Mike": Emergent Arts. See 4 Sunday. 8 p.m.

19 MONDAY

★**Embroiderers' Guild of America.** Stitchers of all abilities invited to work on their projects together and learn about guild activities. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *6:45–9 p.m., Pittsfield Condominium Community Bldg., 2220 Pittsfield Blvd. Free to visitors ($30 annual dues for those who join). 994–4385.*

★**"The Girls of Atomic City: The Untold Story of the Women Who Helped Win World War II": Barnes & Noble Nonfiction Book Club.** All invited to join a discussion of journalist Denise Kiernan's book about the women working during WWII at Oak Ridge (TN), one of the Manhattan Project's secret cities. *7 p.m., Barnes & Noble, 3235 Washtenaw. Free. 973–1618.*

★**Greg Iles: Nicola's Books.** This *New York Times* best-selling writer discusses ***Natchez Burning,*** his new novel, the first in an epic trilogy that weaves together crimes, lies, and secrets past and present. The main character is a popular figure from Iles's previous novels, the southern mayor and former prosecutor Penn Cage. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Stamp Auction: Ann Arbor Stamp Club.** Auction of U.S. and foreign stamps, covers, and collector supplies. *7:30 p.m., Salvation Army, 100 Arbana (park & enter at the rear of the building). Free admission. 761–5859.*

20 TUESDAY

Cobblestone Farm Market. *Every Tues. beginning May 20.* With a variety of children's activities and/or musical entertainment each week. *May 20:* **Kids craft activity** (4–4:30 p.m.), **face painting** (4–5 p.m.), strolling accordionist **Laurence Miller** (4–5 p.m.), **storytelling** with AADL librarian Laura Pershin Raynor (4:30–5 p.m.), Congolese drum & dance by **Bichini Bia Congo** (5–5:30 p.m.), and local jazz trio **Team Love** (5:30–6:45 p.m.). Also, during market hours, tours of Cobblestone's restored 1844 Ticknor-Campbell farmhouse led by Cobblestone Farm Association volunteers. *May 27:* **Kids craft activity** (4–4:30 p.m.), a **family rhythm circle** (4:30–5 p.m.), local folk-rock singer-songwriter **Nicholas Painter** (5–5:45 p.m.), Jo Pie Whyld singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist **Hopie Jo** (6–6:45 p.m.). *4–7 p.m., Cobblestone Farm, 2781 Packard. Free admission. (517) 745–6124.*

★**"Building Compassionate Negotiation Skills": American Business Women's Association.** Talk by Bloomfield Hills family law attorney Alisa Peskin-Shepherd. The program begins with networking and dinner. *6 p.m., Quarter Bistro, 300 S. Maple. Free (buy your own dinner). Reservations requested at abwa-maia.org by May 15. 763–9041.*

★**"Herbal Wisdom: Herbal Allies for the Digestive System": People's Food Co-op.** Talk by local holistic health practitioner Linda Diane Feldt. *7–8:30 p.m., Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room, 114 S. Main. Free. Preregistration required at the co-op or at peoplesfood.coop/news_and_events/. 994–4589.*

"A Ripe Old Age": Vinology. Wine experts lead tastings of aged wines and give advice about which wines to drink immediately and which are better aged. *7–9 p.m., Vinology, 110 S. Main. $55. Reservations required. 222–9841.*

★**League of Women Voters of the Ann Arbor Area Annual Meeting.** Talk by former Ann Arbor state senator Lana Pollack, a member of the International Joint Commission, a U.S.-Canadian organization that monitors binational agreements affecting the Great Lakes and other environmental issues. *7 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. lwvannarbor.org.*

★**Josh Malerman: Nicola's Books.** This area singer-songwriter reads from ***Bird Box,*** his debut novel, a thriller about an unknown terror that drives people to deadly violence when it is seen. Blindfolded, a woman and her children search for refuge. Signing. *7 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

★**Matthew Ball: Ann Arbor District Library.** This acclaimed local boogie-woogie pianist performs boogie-woogie and blues arrangements of classical American songs from "Swanee River" to "Over the Rainbow," along with boogie-woogie classics like "Bumble Boogie," "Pinetop's Boogie," "Cow Cow Blues," and more. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Cindy Hunter Morgan: Skazat! Poetry Series at Sweetwaters.** Reading by this MSU creative writing teacher whose poetry collection *Apple Season* won the Midwest Writing Center 2012 Chapbook Contest. "The poems weave a container as ethereal as any thought, but as reliable as any equation. There is no chance these poems will give out under the weight they carry in memory," says *The Michigan Poet* editor Foster Neill in his review of *Apple Season.* "Each poem in this collection is its own apple, and the season is eternal for the reader." The program begins with open mike readings. *7–8:30 p.m., Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, 123 W. Washington. Free. 994–6663.*

★**"The Nuclear Option: Issues and Alternatives": Huron Valley Sierra Club.** Beyond Nuclear radioactive waste watchdog Kevin Kamps discusses environmental justice, safety, and security risks of nuclear energy. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. 665–0248.*

★**"Words & Music": Ypsilanti Community Choir Spring Concert.** Ariel Toews-Ricotta directs the choir in song settings of poems by Robert Frost and e.e. cummings and prayers for peace by Russell Robinson and John Rutter. The program also includes traditional folksongs from America and Korea. Emcee is Washtenaw County circuit court judge Donald Shelton. Accompanist is Maria Cimarelli. Performances before the concert and during intermission by the jazz quintet **Freighthouse Five.** *7:30 p.m., WCC Morris Lawrence Bldg. Towsley Auditorium, 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Free; donations accepted. 481–9285.*

The Moth Storyslam: Michigan Radio. Monthly open mike storytelling competition sponsored by The Moth, the NYC-based nonprofit storytelling organization that also produces a weekly public radio show. Each month 10 storytellers are selected at random from among those who sign up to tell a 3–5 minute story on the monthly theme. May theme: **"Animals."** The 3 teams of judges are recruited from the audience. Monthly winners compete in a semiannual Grand Slam. Space limited, so it's smart to arrive early. *7:30–9 p.m. (doors open and sign-up begins at 6 p.m.), The Circus, 210 S. First. $5. 764–5118.*

21 WEDNESDAY

Book Club: Ann Arbor Senior Center. All ages invited to join a discussion of a book TBA. *12:30–2 p.m., Ann Arbor Senior Center, 1320 Baldwin. $2 (members, free). 794–6250.*

"King Lear": University Musical Society/National Theatre Live. Taped broadcast of the National Theatre (London) live production, directed by Academy Award–winning director Sam Mendes—of Shakespeare's harrowing yet sublime story of an aging king who decides to divide his kingdom among his 3 daughters. The title role is played by Simon Russell Beale, "the greatest stage actor of his generation," writes an *Independent* (UK) reviewer. *7 p.m., Michigan Theater. Tickets $22 (Michigan Theater & UMS members, $18; students, $12) in advance at the Michigan League and ums.org, and (if available) at the door. 764–2538, (800) 221–1229.*

★**"Monsoon Birds of South India": Washtenaw Audubon Society.** Slide-illustrated talk by club member Mary Mathias, who also briefly discusses Washtenaw Wilderness, a campaign she initiated to certify public and private lands in Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County as Community Wildlife Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation. *7:30 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro Rd. Free. 677–3275.*

★**Culinary History Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss ***The Garden of Invention,*** Jane Smith's biography of the celebrated early 20th-century plant breeder Luther Burbank. *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. *May 21 & every Thurs.–Sat. through June 8.* Paul Bianchi directs local actors in Russell Davis's drama about a young man in a state mental hospital who's gradually drawn back into life by a friend from his past. "Subtle and unsentimental … the play has a sensitive awareness of the renewable vitality within an interrupted relationship," says a *New York Times* review. Cast: Zach Damon, Megan Shiplett, and Susan Morris. *8 p.m. (Wed.–Sat.) & 2 p.m. (Sun.), The Mix Studio Theatre, 8 N. Washington, Ypsilanti. Tickets $12 (seniors & students with ID, $10; $4 discount for dining at Haab's on the day of the show) in advance at emergentarts.com, and at the door. 985–0875.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

22 THURSDAY

"Detroit and Michigan's Role in the Future of the Automotive Business: Where Do We Go from Here?": Ann Arbor City Club Lunch & Learn. Talk by automotive industry expert John McElroy, host of the TV shows *Autoline Daily* and *Autoline This Week. 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., AACC, 1830 Washtenaw. $30 (members, $25). Reservations required by May 16. 662–3279, ext. 1.*

★**"Taking Care of Your Body and Mind": National Alliance on Mental Illness of Washtenaw County.** Panel discussion on integrated primary and mental health care, with Packard Health executive director Raymond Rion, U-M family medicine professor Philip Zazove, and St. Joseph Health System family medicine chair Steven Thiry. *6–8 p.m., Washtenaw County Annex conference room, 110 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 994–6611.*

★**"Beginning Your Genealogical Journey & Beyond": Bookbound.** Talk by acclaimed Ann Arbor–based public speaker and genealogist Katherine Willson. *7 p.m., Bookbound, 1729 Plymouth, Courtyard Shops. Free. 369–4345.*

★**"My Future Is Behind Me": Jewish Community Center.** Talk by Martin Stolzenberg, a Brooklyn native who retired to Ann Arbor, where after age 70, drawing on interests of his youth, he became an assistant basketball coach at Pioneer High and began writing a column for the local *Groundcover News. 7 p.m., JCC, 2935 Birch Hollow Dr. (off Stone School Rd. south of Packard). Free. 971–0990.*

★**"South Africa and the Legacy of Apartheid": Ann Arbor District Library.** Clague Middle School social studies teacher Jeff Gaynor discusses his experiences in South Africa. *7–8:30 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

Nerd Nite Ann Arbor. Popular monthly event featuring several speakers TBA (at annarbor.nerdnite.com) who give fun yet informative talks, 18–21 minutes long, about topics that interest them, from nanoparticles to the science of the Simpsons and the genealogy of Godzilla. *7–9 p.m. or later (doors open at 6:30 p.m.), Live, 102 S. First. $5. 327–4555.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Suzanne Westenhoefer: The Ark. Very popular lesbian comedian whose engaging personality and bright, agile, adventurous observational humor and irreverent social commentary have made her a favorite with all audiences. A frequent guest on cable TV shows, she also has hosted her own HBO special. *8 p.m., The Ark, 316 S. Main. Tickets $26 in advance at the Michigan Union Ticket Office (mutotix.com) & at theark.org. and at the door. To charge by phone, call 763–TKTS.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 21 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 7 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

23 FRIDAY

★**Open House and Military Memorabilia Display: VFW Graf-O'Hara Post 423.** *May 23–26.* Display of the post's military museum, which houses one of the largest private collections of military memorabilia in the Midwest, including uniforms dating from WWI, medals, gear, weapons, helmets, boots, patches, and personal items. *10 a.m.–5 p.m., VFW Post 423, 3230 S. Wagner Rd. Free. 662–3972.*

★**Polka Jam Session.** All accordion players and other musicians invited to play polkas and waltzes and other ethnic and old-time music. Preceded at 6 p.m. by dinner ($5–$8). *7–9 p.m., Milan Moose Lodge, 14484 Sanford Rd. (just north of Milan-Oakville Rd.), Milan. Free. 529–3903.*

★**Dave Eggers: 826michigan.** This well-known writer, author of *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius* and 826 founder, is on hand to sign copies of his most recent novel, *The Circle.* Eggers will also give relationship advice to those who request it. *7–9 p.m., Liberty Street Robot Supply and Repair, 115 E. Liberty. Free, but donations accepted. 761–3463.*

Nessa: Webster United Church of Christ. Improvisational chamber arrangements of traditional Celtic songs from Ireland, Scotland, and Wales and old English folk songs by the local duo of singer-flutist Kelly McDermott and bassist Rob Crozier. *7:30 p.m. (doors open at 7 p.m.), Webster Church, Webster Church Rd. at Farrell (between Joy & North Territorial), Webster Twp. $15 at the door only. 426–5115.*

Gwilym Simcock: Kerrytown Concert House. This virtuosic young British pianist and composer blurs the boundaries between jazz and classical music in original works praised for their soaring lyricism, technical brilliance, and mesmerizing improvisation. His critically acclaimed 2011 album, *Good Days at Schloss Elmau,* earned him several comparisons to Keith Jarrett, thanks to its cool and elegant improvisation. "The whole album is fluid, with Gwilym's deft finger work sounding like a bubbling mountain stream," writes a *BBC Music* reviewer. *8 p.m., KCH, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $15–$30 (students, $5). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 21 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Sal Demilio: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 23 & 24.* Detroit-area comic known for his fresh, clever observational humor who draws much of his material from his experiences growing up in an Italian American family. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty. $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

24 SATURDAY

★**"Dancing Babies": Ann Arbor District Library.** KinderRock (Saline) teacher Melissa Hudson leads infants through 5-year-olds (accompanied by an adult) in a dancing program. *10–10:40 a.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**6th Annual Classic Car Show: Ann Arbor City Club.** A show of more than 65 classic, sporty, unusual, and rare cars. Concessions. Rain or shine. *Noon–3 p.m., Ann Arbor City Club, 1830 Washtenaw. Free. Small fee to show a car. 662–3279, ext. 1.*

★**"The Hip Girl's Guide to the Kitchen": Literati Bookstore.** *The Hip Girl's Guide to Homemaking* website founder **Kate Payne** demonstrates techniques from her new book. Signing. *Time TBA, Literati, 124 E. Washington. Free. 585–5567.*

★**Sharon Hills Preserve Stewardship Workday: Legacy Land Conservancy.** Ann Arbor Wild Ones members give a short presentation on native landscaping for your backyard. Followed by a workday to remove invasive garlic mustard. Wear sturdy shoes, and bring a water bottle. *1–4 p.m., Sharon Hills Preserve, Sharon Hollow Rd. between Walker and Washburn, Sharon Twp. Free; preregistration required by email or phone. dana@legacylandconservancy.org, 302–5263.*

International Festival: Community Action Network Fundraiser. International food and family-friendly activities. *1–4 p.m., Pioneer High School, 601 W. Stadium. Admission TBA. outreach@canannarbor.org.*

★**Ypsilanti Symphony Orchestra.** Adam Riccinto directs this volunteer community orchestra in a program of popular patriotic tunes, along with some new jazz charts featuring 2 guests, veteran bassist **Paul Keller** and the renowned boogie-woogie & blues pianist **Mark "Mr. B" Braun.** Bring a blanket and lawn chair. Rain date: May 25. *2 p.m., Riverside Park Pavilion, E. Cross at N. Huron St., Ypsilanti. Free. 507–1451.*

★**Gaming Tournaments: Ann Arbor District Library.** *May 24 & 25.* Video game tournaments. Prizes. *May 24:* **"Project M/Super Smash Brothers 'Not So' Regulation Throwdown."** For adults and teens in grade 6 & up. *May 25:* **"Mario Kart."** For all ages. *3–5:45 p.m. (May 24) & 1–4 p.m. (May 25), AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

★**Watershed Walk: Huron River Watershed Council.** Ypsilanti city planner Teresa Gillotti and HRWC deputy director Elizabeth Riggs lead a hike from Frog Island Park to Waterworks Park as they discuss HRWC's RiverUp! efforts to maintain those areas for recreational use. *3:30 p.m., Frog Island Park, Depot Town, Ypsilanti. Free. 769–5123, ext. 612.*

★**"The 3-Day Reset: Restore Your Cravings for Healthy Foods in Three, Easy Empowering Days": Nicola's Books.** U-M grad **Pooja Mottl,** a nationally prominent healthy eating guru, discusses her new book. Signing. *4 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

4th Saturday Scandinavian Dance: Ann Arbor Community of Traditional Music and Dance. Swedish and Norwegian dancing to recorded and live music. No partner necessary. Wear flat shoes with smooth, hard soles. The program begins with a lesson by Bruce Sagan and Suzanne Schluederberg. *5–7 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $5 (students, $3). (908) 721–2599.*

★**Winners Recital: George Shirley African American Art Song and Operatic Aria Competition.** Winners of the 2014 competition—including students ages 16–22 from all over the Midwest—perform spirituals, art songs, and operatic arias by African American composers. *6 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. Free. Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

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The Howlin' Brothers

Hot time in the old town

The revival of old-time music, a heartening thing to all but the most purist of old folkies, has divided into several strands, one of which has picked up the rowdy side of the tradition. The band Old Crow Medicine Show added some party- and drug-themed numbers and some punk spirit to this train of musical thought and rode it to near-stardom. Now OCMS itself has spawned successors, among them the Howlin' Brothers. Formed at Ithaca College in New York in 2003 (former Old Crow multi-instrumentalist and vocalist Willie Watson, also coming to the Ark in May, hails from the same area), they later moved to Tennessee and recorded an EP at Sun Studios in Memphis. Then came a full-length album entitled simply *Howl*.

The online magazine *Buzz & Howl* (are you sensing a theme here?) characterized the Howlin' Brothers as "Old Crow Medicine Show for people who like a little more sweat on the microphone," and indeed the energy level is high and the harmonies drastically simple. Some of their original songs rely on semi-shouted refrains or call-and-response patterns that can be amped up for a festival or dialed down a bit for a mostly seated crowd like that at the Ark.

The drug references of OCMS, though, are missing. And though the band draws, so far mostly in covers, on a variety of old-time traditions, they also break new ground. Their version of Muddy Waters' "My Dog Can't Bark" is a full-scale fusion of old-time music and humorous sexual Chicago blues, complete with harmonica and quiet yet extremely propulsive drumming. The Howlin' Brothers cover and speed up John Hartford's "The Julia Belle Swain," turning that hippie riverside idyll into rousing Saturday night fun. They have the chops to take on even familiar classics like "Take This Hammer" and (on the Sun Studios EP) "Dixie Fried" and make them their own, and their repertoire even goes back as far as the nineteenth-century "Boatman's Dance," a minstrel tune written, or at least noted down, by the composer of "Dixie."

The Howlin' Brothers come to the Ark May 29 with a new release, *Trouble*. The fusion of old-time music with the punk impulse has evolved from a novelty to a growing trend, and it will be bracing to see where its newest practitioners take it next.

—James M. Manheim

Chamber Music Festival: PhoenixPhest. Chamber music by members of the award-winning ensembles the **Cleveland Quartet** and the **Cavani String Quartet** as well as local violinist **Gabe Bolkosky** and other members of the PhoenixPhest faculty. *7:30 p.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, 1400 W. Stadium. Tickets $20 (students, $10). 546–5032.*

4th Saturday Scandinavian Music Jam. Local fiddler Bruce Sagan hosts a jam for all musicians interested in playing Swedish and Norwegian tunes. *8–10 p.m., Sagan residence, 2059 Georgetown Blvd. Free. (908) 721–2599, sagan@math.msu.edu.*

"Spring Comedy Festival: Lovers, Liars, & Lunatics": Purple Rose Theatre Company. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 21 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

Sal Demilio: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 23 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

25 SUNDAY

★**"Memorial Day Sunday Democratic Ride": Ann Arbor Bicycle Touring Society.** Pace and destination are determined by the assembled riders. *9 a.m., meet at Wheeler Park (except as noted), N. Fourth Ave. at Depot St. Free. 904–6431.*

★**Dan Rice Memorial Regatta: U-M Sailing Club.** All invited to watch club members race their zippy JY15 dinghies around Baseline Lake in a regatta dedicated to the club's late longtime sailing instructor. *11 a.m., Baseline Lake, 8010 Strawberry Lake Rd., left from Mast off North Territorial. Free. 426–4299.*

"Brewing Methods": Zingerman's Coffee Company. Zingerman's Coffee Co. staff demonstrate and discuss 6–8 different ways to brew coffee, from filter drip to syphon pot. *1–3 p.m., Zingerman's Coffee Company, 3723 Plaza Dr. $10. 929–6060.*

★**33rd Annual Memorial Day Observance: Arborcrest Memorial Park.** Tribute featuring remarks by government officials and speakers TBA. Attendees usually include local veteran associations, Boy & Girl Scout troops, and others. Also, a bugle salute. Rain or shine. Limited seating; bring a chair or blanket to sit on. *2–3 p.m., Arborcrest Memorial Park, 2521 Glazier Way (behind the VA hospital, ¼ mile west of Huron Pkwy.). Free. 761–4572.*

★**Ann Arbor Storytellers Guild.** All invited to listen to guild members swap stories or bring their own to tell. *2–4 p.m., Nicola's Books, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 971–5763.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 2 p.m.

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 21 Wednesday. 2 p.m.

★**Booked for Murder Mystery Book Club: Nicola's Books.** *Tentative date.* All invited to discuss 2 mysteries: Claudia Piñeiro's ***A Crack in the Wall*** concerns a young woman who stirs things up at an architectural firm when she brings to light an old crime the rest of the office wants to forget. Leighton Gage's ***Blood of the Wicked*** is the first in his acclaimed police procedural series set in Brazil. *4:30 p.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 769–2149.*

★**"Fireside Fun": Leslie Science and Nature Center.** All invited to sit around a campfire, roast marshmallows, and swap stories. If you like, bring camping chairs and s'mores fixings (marshmallows provided). *6:30–8 p.m., LSNC, 1831 Traver Rd. Free. 997–1553.*

Michael Dadap: Church of the Good Shepherd. This prominent classical guitarist, the longtime artistic director of the Children's Orchestra Society (NYC), performs original arrangements of folk songs from different regions of the Philippines, along with selections from the classical guitar repertoire. *7 p.m., Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence. $15 (students, $10) at the door only. 971–6133.*

"Chili Challis' UNclub Comedy Open Mike": Emergent Arts. See 4 Sunday. 8 p.m.

26 MONDAY (MEMORIAL DAY)

★**Memorial Day Parade: Glacier Area Home Owners' Association.** Ann Arbor's oldest neighborhood parade—and the best one in the area for young kids and their families—is a 6-block jaunt followed by a brief memorial service in Glacier Highlands Park and a chance for kids to play at the playground. *10 a.m., Frederick to Middleton to Bardstown to Windemere to Barrister. Free. glacierhighlands.org*

27 TUESDAY

See 6 Tuesday for recurring events.

28 WEDNESDAY

★**Preschool Storytime: Nicola's Books/Great Lakes Zoological Society.** A storyteller reads animal-themed children's books. Also, animal crafts and a presentation of live animals. *10:30 a.m., Nicola's, 2513 Jackson, Westgate shopping center. Free. 662–0600.*

"Dreaming a Place: Environmental Dance and Movement Meditation": Nightfire Dance Theater. Nightfire director Irena Nagler leads participants in a session of movement and meditation in response to elements in the environment. No experience necessary; children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring drinking water and whatever protection you need from the elements. *6 p.m., location TBA. $5–$20 sliding scale. 996–1772.*

★**MiRobotClub.** All robotics hobbyists invited to work on and discuss robots. *7–9 p.m., Maker Works, 3765 Plaza Dr. (off Airport Blvd north of Ellsworth). Free. mirobotclub.com.*

★**"Tropical & Subtropical Bonsai": Ann Arbor Bonsai Society.** Talk by Feduccia's Bonsai (Florida) owner Michael Feduccia. Preceded at 6:30 p.m. by socializing. *7 p.m., U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixboro. Free; metered parking. annarborbonsaisociety.org.*

★**"Genealogy Research": Ann Arbor District Library.** AADL staff introduce genealogy research tools available at the library and elsewhere. *7–9 p.m., AADL Malletts Creek Branch training center, 3090 E. Eisenhower (between Stone School & Packard). Free. 327–4555.*

★**"An Evening of Poetry and Written Word": Crazy Wisdom Bookstore & Tea Room.** Reading by Ferris State English professor **Phillip Sterling,** author of 4 poetry chapbooks and a short story collection. Followed by a poetry and short fiction open mike. *7–9 p.m., Crazy Wisdom, 114 S. Main. Free 665–2757.*

★**History of Science Reading Group: Motte & Bailey, Booksellers.** All invited to discuss Karl Dannenfeldt's ***Leonhard Rauwolf: Sixteenth-Century Physician, Botanist and Traveler.*** *7:30–9 p.m., Motte & Bailey, 212 N. Fourth Ave. Free. 669–0451.*

29 THURSDAY

"The Bacon Ball: Kentucky Cured, Kentucky Owned": Zingerman's Roadhouse. Chef Alex Young is joined by Col. Bill Newsom's Aged Country Ham (Princeton, KY) owner Nancy Newsom for a dinner centered around Newsom's country ham and aged prosciutto-type ham, along with other bacon, ham, and pork dishes. *7–9 p.m., Zingerman's Roadhouse, 2501 Jackson. $60 (beverages not included). Space limited; reservations required. 663–FOOD.*

★**"The Arrival of B.B. King": Ann Arbor District Library.** Talk by U-M American culture professor Bruce Conforth, the 1st curator of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. In conjunction with the 88-year-old blues icon's June concert at the Michigan Theater. *7–8 p.m., AADL multipurpose room (lower level), 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–4555.*

"Closer than Ever": Encore Musical Theatre Company. *May 29–31.* This local professional company presents this musical revue of works by Maltby and Shire, a nonstop exploration of the struggles of everyday life, especially those surrounding love. The May 30 gala fundraiser show includes a 6 p.m. wine & hors d'oeuvres reception with live & silent auctions. *7 p.m. (May 29), 8 p.m. (May 30 & 31), & 3 p.m. (May 31), Encore, 3126 Broad St., Dexter. Tickets $25 (May 29 & 31) & $50 (May 30) in advance at theencoretheatre.org and at the door. 268–6200.*

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 7:30 p.m.

Centennial Celebration Concert: Ann Arbor Public Schools. Pioneer, Huron, and Skyline high school bands perform a tribute to the 1913 Ann Arbor High School Band, including premieres of works commissioned for the occasion. *8 p.m., Hill Auditorium. Cost TBA. 996–3210.*

"The Great God Pan": Redbud Productions. *May 29–31.* Loretta Grimes directs local actors in the Michigan premiere of award-winning playwright Amy Herzog's haunting, intimate play in which the dark recesses of one man's memory threaten to engulf his life. When an up-and-coming journalist is visited by a childhood friend with a disturbing revelation, his life begins to unravel, including his relationship with his pregnant girlfriend. Herzog "writes with a keen sensitivity to the complex wave of feelings embedded in all human relationships, with particular attention to the way we tiptoe around the areas of radioactive emotion," writes a *New York Times* reviewer. Cast: Dave Barker, Siamak Davarani, Mary Franceschi, Tim Grimes, Sophia Fall,

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Janet Rich, Katie Whitney. *8 p.m., Kerrytown Concert House, 415 N. Fourth Ave. $20–$25 (students, $15). Reservations recommended. 769–2999.*

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 21 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Comedy Jamm": Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 7 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

30 FRIDAY

Ice Cream Social: Lawton Elementary School. Carnival games and treats. *5:30 p.m., Lawton, 2250 S. Seventh St. Free admission; (nominal charge for food and games). 994–1946.*

Ice Cream Social: Pittsfield Elementary School. Inflatables, games, raffles, a silent auction, and, new this year, a balloon artist. Pizza, beverages, and ice cream available. *5:30–8 p.m., Pittsfield, 2543 Pittsfield Blvd. (off Edgewood, off Platt, south of Washtenaw). Free admission (nominal charge for food & games). 997–1218.*

Ice Cream Social: Abbot Elementary School. Bounce houses, raffles, cakewalk, dunk tank, and more. Pizza, snacks, and ice cream available. Rain or shine. *5:30–8 p.m., Abbot Elementary, 2670 Sequoia Pkwy. (off N. Maple). Free admission (nominal charge for food & games). 994–1901.*

Ice Cream Social: Burns Park Elementary School. Inflatables, karaoke, a cakewalk, airbrush tattoos, and carnival games. Pizza, desserts, salads, drinks, and ice cream available. *5:30–8 p.m., Burns Park Elementary, 1414 Wells. Free admission; nominal charge for food and games. 994–1919.*

Ice Cream Social: Angell Elementary School. Ice cream, pizza, cotton candy, bounce houses, tug of war, raffle, and other games. *6–8 p.m., Angell, 1608 South University. Free admission (nominal charge for food and games). 994–1907.*

"The Space Between": Pure Existence Dance Company. *May 30 & 31.* Jodie Randolph directs this professional dance company, as well as the preprofessional young dance company **X2,** in eight of her works and a dance choreographed by founding member Megan Scheppelman. The dances explore themes of transition, phases, dependency, and security. Reception follows. *7 p.m., Riverside Arts Center, 76 N. Huron, Ypsilanti. Tickets $10 in advance; $15 at the door. pureexistencedance.com.*

"The Brothers Grimm Spectaculathon": Skyline High School. Anne-Marie Roberts directs Skyline students in Don Zolidis' fast-paced theatrical revue, a series of parodies of several of the best-known (and some of the more obscure) Grimm's fairy tales. Cast TBA. *7:30 p.m., Skyline High School, 2552 N. Maple. $5 at the door only. 994–6515.*

★**"Birthday English Dance for All."** English country dancing to music by Childgrove. In celebration of the 50th birthdays of Linda and Laura Hanson. *8 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). Free. 769–1052.*

Chuck Mitchell: Green Wood Coffee House Series (First United Methodist Church). A mix of poetry, cabaret songs, whimsical novelty tunes, and lively banter by this veteran singer-guitarist and actor, a Detroit area native who now lives in Iowa. Desserts & coffee available. *8 p.m., FUMC Green Wood Church, 1001 Green Rd. at Glazier Way. $12 (kids 10 & under, 2 for the price of 1) in advance and at the door. 665–8558.*

"Closer than Ever": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 29 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"The Great God Pan": Redbud Productions. See 29 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 21 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Ricarlo Flanagan: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. *May 30 & 31.* Local African American underground comic known for his biting takes on relationships, racial relations, workplace issues, and poverty. Preceded by 2 opening acts. Alcohol is served. *8 & 10:30 p.m., 314 E. Liberty. $10 reserved seating in advance, $12 general admission at the door. 996–9080.*

31 SATURDAY

★**"Journey Through the Solar System": Friends of the Solar System Project.** *May 31 & June 1.* Self-guided tour of this scale model of the solar system, with papier-mâché sculptures of planets and other cosmic bodies, spread out on a path that stretches from Mitchell Field to an end point near the Dixboro Dam. Info and images of the solar system at stations along the way. *9 a.m.–7 p.m., Gallup Park, 3000 Fuller. Free. heidialward@live.com*

"Heavenly Hosta Sale": First Presbyterian Church. Sale of hundreds of hostas and perennials. Proceeds benefit various church groups and missions. *9 a.m.–2 p.m. (May 31) & noon–2 p.m. (June 1), First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw. Free admission. 662–4466.*

★**"Unhappy with School? Exploring Educational Alternatives": Acorn Glen Center for Self-Directed Learning.** All invited to join a discussion about K–12 education and the new AGCSDL for kids ages 5–18. Kids welcome. Refreshments. *10 a.m.–noon, AGCSDL inside Calvary United Methodist Church, 1415 Miller. Free. (310) 748–7442.*

★**"Storytime at the Museum": UMMA.** U-M student docents and UMMA staffers read stories related to the Native American art in the current exhibit *Changing Hands: Art Without Reservation.* Followed by an art activity. For kids ages 4–7 accompanied by a parent. Siblings welcome. *11:15 a.m., UMMA (meet at the information desk), 525 S. State. Free. 764–0395.*

★**"Ann Arbor Science & Skeptics: Scientists Fair 2014": Ann Arbor District Library.** Scientists from the U-M and other local institutions with expertise in the Big Bang, particle physics, climate change, biomedical research, nuclear power, and exploring Mars are on hand to explain scientific concepts, answer questions, and/or discuss their own research. For adults & teens in grade 6 & up. *1–3 p.m., AADL multipurpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Free. 327–8301.*

Aidan's Faire: St. Aidan's Episcopal Church. An all-ages fair with a treasure hunt and hikes through the woods on the church grounds, rides in a classic sports car, a bounce house, a silent auction, games, a labyrinth walk, face painting, a piñata, grilled food, and build-your-own sundaes. Also, a chance to learn about the church's rain garden, retreat center, and lakefront property. Rain or shine. Full schedule at staidan.org. *3–7 p.m., St. Aidan's Episcopal Church/Northside Presbyterian Church, 1679 Broadway (at Baits). Free admission; nominal charge for food. 663–5503.*

International Folk Dancing: Ann Arbor Folkdancers. Bulgarian and Balkan dancing to live music by Veselba. No partner needed; beginners welcome. *7–10 p.m., the barn at Gretchen's House V, 2625 Traver. $10 (students, $5). 709–8748.*

★**"Interesting Drug": Vault of Midnight.** Local comics writer **Shaun Manning** and Comic Book Resources staff writer **Dave Richards** discuss Manning's new graphic novel, a sci-fi thriller about an addictive drug that allows people to travel back in time to any point in their lives. Signing. Followed by a reception with music spun by **DJ Happenstance.** *7 p.m., Vault of Midnight, 219 S. Main. Free. 998–1413.*

"The Space Between": Pure Existence Dance Company. See 30 Friday. 7 p.m.

"Just Desserts: One Acts, Shorts, & Skits": Community High School Ensemble Theater. Community High students present a series of 10-minute scenes, monologues, songs, and dances. *7:30 p.m., Community High School Craft Theater, 401 N. Division. (Parking available in the lot behind the school, N. Fifth Ave. at Detroit St.) $15 (students, $10) in advance at SHowTix4U.com and at the door. 994–2021.*

Gender-Free Contra Dance. Mark Hillegonds calls to live music by Debbie Jackson and Brad Battey. People of any sexual orientation welcome. All dances taught. Bring flat, smooth-sole shoes for dancing. Preceded at 7:30 p.m. by a lesson. *8–11 p.m., Pittsfield Grange, 3337 Ann Arbor–Saline Rd. (just south of Oak Valley Dr.), Saline. $10 (students, $5). 756–8441.*

Ann Arbor Scottish Ball: Tartan and Thistle Scottish Country Dancers. Scottish country dancing to live music by Washington, D.C.-area band Terpsichore. For experienced Scottish dancers. Preceded at 6 p.m. by dinner (reservations required by May 20). *8 p.m., Concourse Hall, 4531 Concourse Dr. (off S. State across from the airport). $30 (dinner); $20 (dance). 769–1052.*

"Closer than Ever": Encore Musical Theatre Company. See 29 Thursday. 3 & 8 p.m.

"Appointment with a Highwire Lady": Emergent Arts. See 21 Wednesday. 8 p.m.

"The Great God Pan": Redbud Productions. See 29 Thursday. 8 p.m.

"Richard III": Performance Network Professional Season. See 1 Thursday. 8 p.m.

Ricarlo Flanagan: Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase. See 30 Friday. 8 & 10:30 p.m.

"Mixed Nuts": Fancy Pants Arts & Entertainment. Vaudeville-style variety show featuring musicians, jugglers, stand-up comics, acrobats, burlesque performers, and more. Also, games with prizes. Raffle. The show is followed by dancing to music by a DJ until 2 a.m. *8:30–11 p.m., Maidstone Theatre, 1425 Ecorse Rd., Ypsilanti. $10 (ages 18–20, $12). Fancypantsa2.com. 926–9629.*

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May – Market Update

IT'S SPRING!! It may not look like it outside but the spring real estate market is upon us. The market is red-hot in most areas and price ranges. Driven by low supply and high demand, prices are rising. The opportunity to sell your home or condo has not been this good in a decade. For buyers, the effort and strategy to be successful in this market is as difficult as ever. Are you thinking of making a move this spring? Call me today to discuss your needs and the opportunities available. Matt Dejanovich, 734-476-7100.

SELLERS – The value of your home is at its highest level since 2007. Demand for your home is at the highest level since 2004. But this market is far from "easy". The issues of pricing, managing multiple offers, and successfully appraising the home with the buyer's lender are more complex than ever. It takes an experienced agent with an effective strategy to successfully sell your home and get it closed. Please call me to discuss your situation today, 734-476-7100.

BUYERS – Word on the street is that there are no quality homes to buy. Somehow I manage to lead the county in closed buyer sales year to date. I have been successful in finding the best homes available for most of my buyers (not all, sorry). The process of home selection, offer strategy, and financing are a challenge. You need an experienced agent in your corner to find the right house and successfully close. Call me today to start your search, 734- 476-7100.

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Over 120 homes sold in 2013
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734-476-7100 or Matt@ISellAnnArbor.com

Matt Dejanovich has been a realtor serving the Ann Arbor area for 25 years and has been a resident of the community his entire life. Matt prides himself on providing personal, direct service to each and every one of his clients.

No assistants! Not one.
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SALINE – Incredible opportunity to own a 91-acre estate property directly adjoining the City of Saline. This land is perfectly set for large scale residential development. Land is rolling with woods and open farm fields. Property includes 3500 sq. ft. home and small barn. Could be a great horse farm as well. $2500,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BARTON HILLS – Are you looking for the best? Here it is. This custom-built 6-bedroom, 4-bathroom, 2-half bath home rests on an incredible 6.5 acre lot. Gorgeous grounds with mature trees, circle drive, and spacious yard. The interior features gorgeous flowing spaces built with only the finest materials and craftsmanship. Highlights include spacious great room, travertine flooring, gourmet kitchen, dream master suite, and finished walkout basement. $1975,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bathroom home has undergone an extreme home makeover. Every inch has been remodeled and updated to the highest standards. Incredible setting features circle drive, extensive landscaping, patio, deck, and pool. The interior is a dream including Mahogany flooring, cherry kitchen with granite, huge sunroom, luxury master suite and finished lower level. Incredible. $749,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Custom-built country estate on 10 gorgeous acres. Incredible setting highlighted by mature forest, open grassland, and extensive landscaping. The home is built to the highest standard with extreme attention to detail and quality. Features include custom cherry kitchen with prof grade appliances, luxury master suite, finished walkout basement, and in-floor heating system. $639,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE ESTATES – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom colonial by Toll Brothers on a spacious acre lot in one of the area's most sought after neighborhoods. Great setting with extensive landscaping and brick paver patio. This home is gorgeous with designer décor throughout. Features include all hardwood flooring on main floor, maple kitchen with granite, two-story family room with back stair, luxury master suite, and great kids' bedrooms. $579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – Stunning custom-built 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath home on a private 2-acre setting just minutes from everything. Gorgeous lot with mature landscaping and large patio. Home is loaded and features ample hardwood floor, dream kitchen with granite and high-end appliances, family room with field stone fireplace, luxury master suite with sitting area, glamor bath, and bonus room, and prof finished lower level with rec room, spa-bath, den, wine cellar, and exercise room. $579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath ranch on a quiet lot in Stonebridge. This home has great flair and includes great room with fireplace, maple kitchen, screened porch, luxury master suite, and finished basement with view out windows, rec room, bedroom, den, and bath. You will love this home! $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

COUNTRY VICTORIAN – Incredible 5-bedroom, 2-bath, 1800s Victorian on 6 peaceful acres just minutes to I-94 and US-23 in Augusta Township. Great setting with numerous outbuildings and large pond. Home is classic and oozes are the charm and character you would expect in this era home. Features include 10' first floor ceilings, extensive molding, large porches, extensive remodeling and restorations, and finished basement. $399,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

THE RAVINES – Very sharp 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom two-story perfectly situated in this very popular west side Ann Arbor neighborhood. Great lot with spacious backyard, large deck, and nice landscaping. This home sparkles with new hardwood floors throughout the first floor. Other features include large living room, open kitchen, family room with fireplace, and great master suite. $309,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

CHELSEA – On Golden Pond. Incredible setting for this 2-bedroom, 1-bathroom home overlooking Island Lake. Peaceful and gorgeous views of this non-sports lake. Perfect for nature lovers with multiple decks and screened porch. Home features maple kitchen, great room with wall of glass to the lake, and nice master bedroom. Two garages, one with finished loft area. $239,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –WALK TO UM STADIUM – Very sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bath condo walking to distance to UM stadium. This unit has many great features including open living concept with large living room, maple kitchen, large master suite, second bedroom plus bath, and flex-use third bedroom could be a study. Interior access one-car garage. $189,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –SALINE – This home has undergone an extreme home makeover. Very sharp 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom ranch on a quiet street in one of Saline's most desired neighborhoods. Features include cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, hardwood floors, new bath, and finished basement. $179,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

GEDDES GLEN – This 5-bedroom, 5-bathroom, 2-half bath custom-built home represents the finest in location, design, and craftsmanship. Incredible setting in Ann Arbor's only gated community. Enjoy quality outdoor living with full exterior kitchen, multiple patios with fireplace and hot tub. The interior is a showplace and includes dual staircase in entry, two-story living and family rooms, cherry kitchen, dream master suite, and finished lower level with theater. $1899,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

THE DOWNS – Premium 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath Landau-built colonial on a pastoral 6-acre lot in one of the area's most sought after locations. The setting is perfect, with expansive views, extensive landscaping, and an in-ground pool. This spectacular home features grand curved staircase, two-story living room, gourmet kitchen, family room with fieldstone fireplace, luxury first floor master suite, and finished walkout basement. $1350,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

BROOKVIEW HIGHLANDS – This 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom-built home is one of the premier homes in Saline. Great setting with circle drive, extensive landscaping and two patios. The interior is finished at the highest level of design, craftsmanship and materials. Features include two-story great room with wall of glass, gourmet kitchen with professional grade appliances, stately den with bookcases, dream master suite, and one of the nicest finished basements you will see. $899,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Incredible 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom-built home on a perfectly private lot in one of the area's most desired subs. Stunning grounds featuring extensive landscaping, circle drive, screened porch, deck, and patio. The interior is loaded and is highlighted by the two-story great room with wall of windows, cherry kitchen, two master suites, den and finished walkout basement. $759,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

ARBORETUM AREA – Completely remodeled 3-bedroom, 3-bathroom contemporary overlooking the Huron River Valley just minutes from U of M and all hospitals. Incredible setting with hilltop views of The Arb and valley. Home is stunning and includes multiple decks and patios, great room with wall of glass, cherry kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, all hardwood flooring, luxury master suite, two studies, and family room with fireplace. $629,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WINES ELEMENTARY – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 3.5-bath colonial in Riverwood. Gorgeous setting adjacent to Newport Creek nature area. Great outdoor living with incredible privacy, extensive landscaping, and 3 patios. The interior is a showpiece and includes two story family, open kitchen with hardwood floors and granite counter tops, den, luxury master suite with sitting area and fireplace, guest suite, and Jack-n-Jill bath. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –HAMBURG TOWNSHIP – Dramatic 5-bedroom, 4.5-bath custom-built home on a gorgeous wooded site in Winans Woods. This home is loaded with all the current features and amenities you've been hoping for. Great lot with view into wooded ravine. Interior features two-story great room with stone fireplace, cherry kitchen with granite counters, luxury master suite with dream bath, and finished walkout basement with 10' ceilings. $599,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –STONEBRIDGE – Incredible 4-bedroom, 4.5-bath ranch on the #1 fairway at Stonebridge. This home is just perfect inside and out. Enjoy panoramic golf course views from one of the largest decks you will find. The interior is a showpiece and features great room vaulted ceiling and maple floor, custom kitchen with granite and stainless steel appliances, luxury master suite, and finished basement with rec room, exercise room, kitchen, bedroom, and bath. $589,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

LIBERTY LOFTS – Downtown living at its finest. Stunning 2-bedroom, 2-bathroom condo just two blocks from Main Street. This converted manufacturing building has the urban look you've been hoping for with exposed concrete ceilings and hardwood floors throughout. Open kitchen with granite counters, large living space, and luxury bath. $579,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

SALINE – This is one of the most incredible homes I have ever listed. Stunning Frank Lloyd Wright-inspired home built to the highest standard of craftsmanship and materials. Enjoy your own park-like acre plus setting with mature landscaping, large patio, and stream. Home is jaw dropping at every turn including custom kitchen with granite, custom woodwork in every room, two fireplaces, waterfall, and outbuilding. $549,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

TRAVIS POINTE – Custom-built 4-bedroom, 2.5-bath all brick home on the #17 fairway at Travis Pointe. Incredible setting with great views of the golf course from the large decks and screened porch. The interior of this home features two-story great room with floor to ceiling brick fireplace, spacious kitchen, family room, den, luxury master suite, and great kids' bedrooms. $500,000. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE – Perfect 4-bedroom, 2-full baths, 2.5-half baths home on a quiet cul-de-sac lot near Saline Schools! Great setting featuring oversized backyard, large deck, and extensive landscaping. The interior sparkles and includes two-story foyer, large den, cherry kitchen with stainless steel appliances, family room with 10' ceilings and fireplace, luxury master suite with remodeled bath and finished lower level with large multi-use rec room. $469,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –SALINE – Hard to find 4-bedroom, 3-bath ranch on a gorgeous acre lot convenient to everything. One of the prettiest setting you see with extensive landscaping, large cedar deck, and numerous gardens. The interior features include living room with fireplace, sunroom with heated tile floor, study, open kitchen, nice master suite with attached bath, and flex-use bonus room. 3-car garage. $379,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

STONEBRIDGE CONDO – This 3-bedroom, 3.5-bathroom detached condo has one of the nicest golf course views you will see. Enjoy complete view of the #3 hole at Stonebridge from the large Trex deck. The interior of this home sparkles and features great room with two-story ceiling, kitchen with hardwood floor and quartz counter tops, den, large master suite, and finished basement with view out windows. $369,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WINES ELEMENTARY – Stunning 3-bedroom, 1.5-bathroom mid-century modern home on a gorgeous wood lot walking distance to downtown Ann Arbor. The setting of this home is incredible with mature trees, renovated landscaping, and large deck. The interior is loaded with all the charm and character of the period and includes living room with lots of windows and vaulted ceiling, perfect original kitchen, sizable bedrooms with hardwood floors, and lower level rec room with fireplace. $329,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

HICKORY POINTE – Incredible 3000 sq. ft. 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom colonial in on of the area's most desired subs. This home rests on a quiet interior lot with great elbowroom, walking distance to community pool. The interior shows like a model home and features large formal living and dining rooms, spacious kitchen, great family room with stone fireplace, luxury master suite with huge walk-in closet, bath, and sitting room/den, and sizeable kids' bedrooms. Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100. $314,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

WEST SIDE ANN ARBOR – Charming westside two-story loaded with charm and potential. Just a short walk to downtown Ann Arbor, you won't find this much house for the dollar anywhere! Home has original hardwood floors and trim, some updates complete, and is ready for your finishing touches. Screened porch. $229,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

MANCHESTER – Charming 3+ bedroom, 3.5-bathroom cape walking distance to schools and downtown Manchester. Incredible setting features great landscaping, large deck, spacious backyard, and mature trees. The interior of this home sparkles and features a large great room, open kitchen, first floor master bedroom, sizeable kids' bedrooms, bonus room, and finished walkout basement. $219,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –NORTHSIDE GLEN – Very sharp 2-bedroom, 2-bath ground level condo in one of NE Ann Arbor's most sought after complexes. Nice setting backing to quiet grassy area. Interior features include large living room, screened porch, great kitchen with lots of cabinets, formal dining area, large master suite with attached bath, and flex use second bedroom. This unit has perfect décor. Move-in condition. $179,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

NEW LISTING –EAST SIDE CONDO – Very sharp 2-bedroom, 2-bath condo in a quiet condo community conveniently located to all freeways, shopping, and hospitals. The unit features a great view of a nature pond and trees. The interior has been nicely updated and features great room with hardwood floor and fireplace, kitchen with granite counter tops, nice master suite with vaulted ceiling and sitting room (could be 3rd bedroom), and finished basement with rec room and bath. $159,900. **Call Matt Dejanovich, 476-7100.**

Are you thinking about selling your home this year? I currently have buyers looking for the following:

- West side Ann Arbor – Up to $2 Million
- North Ann Arbor – Up to $1.5 Million
- Ann Arbor, Saline, Dexter – Up to $1.5 Million, newer, updated
- Pioneer High School - $500-$800,000 - newer
- Ann Arbor Hills or Burns Park – $500-$700,000 – need two of these
- Ann Arbor or Saline - $500-$750,000 – acreage/privacy
- Stonebridge or Travis Pointe – home or condo $300-$500,000
- Saline Schools - $350-$450,000 – 4 BR Colonial
- NE Ann Arbor - $300-$450,000 – updated
- Ann Arbor, Saline, Dexter $250,000 - $350,000 - Acreage
- West Side Ann Arbor - $200-$250,000 – home or condo

Please call me if you think your home could be a match: 734-476-7100 or Matt@ISellAnnArbor.com

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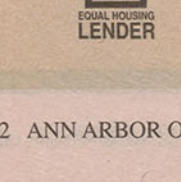
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734.274.5782

Nicole Mourning
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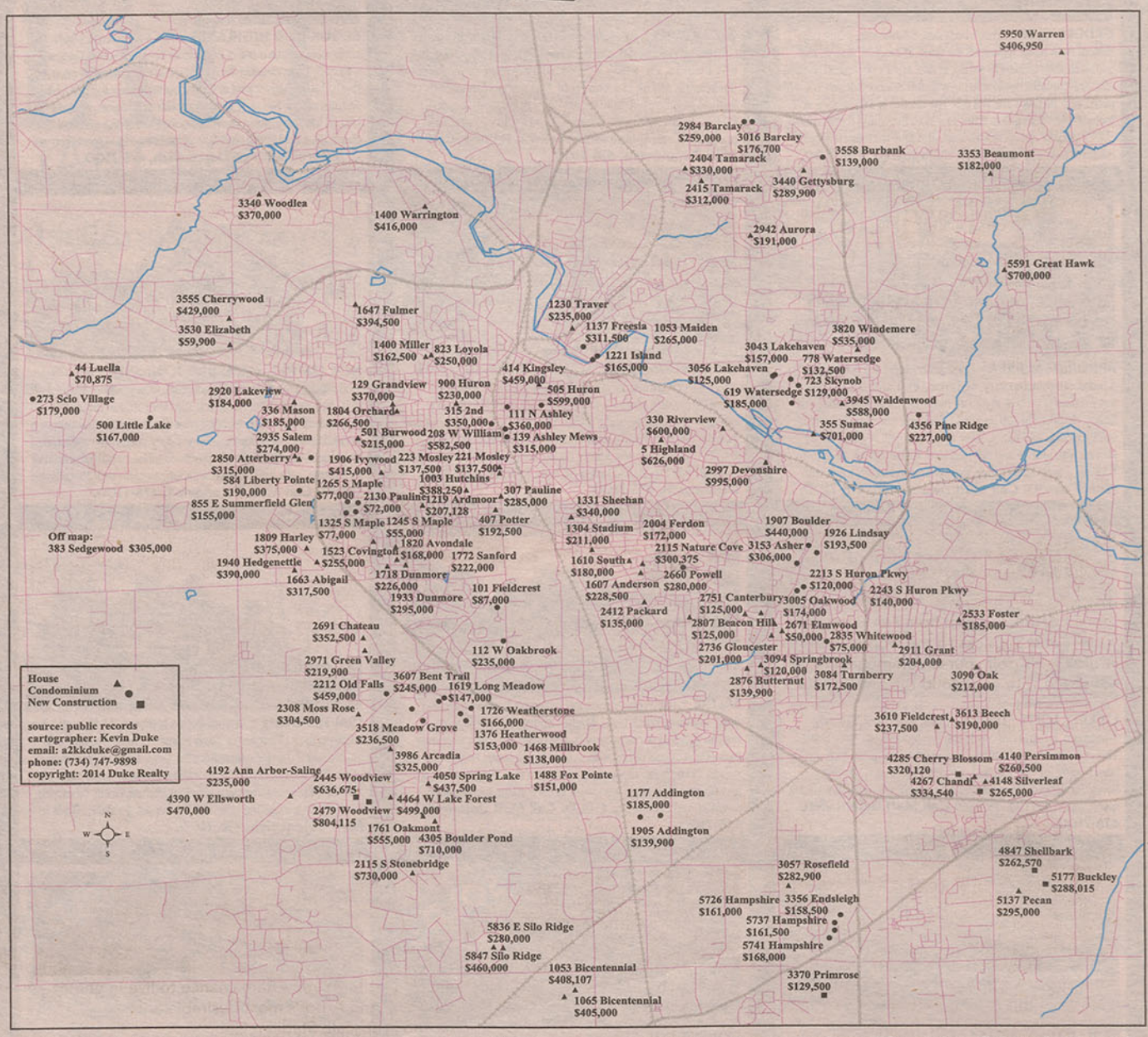
MARCH 2014

HOME SALES



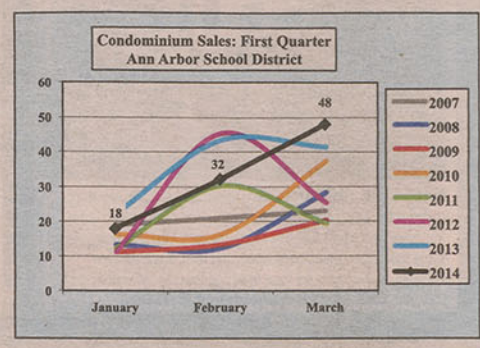
Condominium sales rebounded dramatically in March. Forty-eight sales of existing condos are posted on this month's map, the most for any month in the first quarter in the last eight years (see accompanying chart). And while March's median selling price of $167,000 (half cost more, half less) does not represent a record in Ann Arbor, it is nevertheless a significant 7 percent increase over last year's median price of $156,000.

Condo prices still lag behind historical highs. The sale of a three-bedroom, two-bath condo for $167,000 on this month's map illustrates how far the market still has to go. Located at 500 Little Lake in Scio Township (south of Park Road and west of Wagner) in the Great Oak Cohousing neighborhood, it was originally purchased in 2003 as new construction for $286,121.

Nevertheless, the market for condos has steadily recovered since the Great Recession. To illustrate the trend, condo sales are broken down by price range in the adjoining table. The upward swing of the recovery in 2013 can be seen in every price range above $150,000 compared to 2012. The strength of the recovery is also obvious in the bottom line of the table: last year, buyers spent $115 million on local condos, a level last seen in 2004. But the most compelling evidence of stronger condo sales is their sheer numbers: 629 were sold in 2013, surpassing even the 579 sold in 2004.

The bounce-back of the condo market is also visible in the dwindling number of bargains. Sales of condos for less than $100,000 peaked at 120 in 2011, as foreclosures were dumped on the market at bargain prices on top of private sales at distressed prices. By 2013, in contrast, just eighty-five condos sold for less than $100,000.

—Kevin Duke



Condo Price Range	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Less than $100,000	14	9	8	18	29	78	98	120	108	85
$100,000-$149,999	133	95	105	123	132	155	180	158	193	193
$150,000-$199,999	232	231	206	125	110	84	90	75	110	155
$200,000-$249,999	90	97	91	64	45	36	36	31	60	90
$250,000-$299,999	60	42	33	26	22	11	6	13	21	37
$300,000-$349,999	23	20	23	9	12	4	10	5	2	25
$350,000-$399,999	11	13	10	8	8	5	10	7	12	15
$400,000-$499,999	7	9	11	4	12	7	6	13	9	20
More than $500k	9	10	5	4	12	1	3	4	5	9
Condos Sold	579	526	492	381	382	381	439	426	520	629
Median Price	$179,000	$183,000	$180,000	$165,000	$162,000	$129,000	$125,000	$125,000	$135,000	$156,000
Average Price	$199,000	$205,000	$198,000	$184,000	$193,000	$148,000	$149,000	$149,000	$157,000	$183,000
Sales ($millions)	$115m	$108m	$98m	$70m	$74m	$56m	$65m	$64m	$82m	$115m

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Superior Township – You get it all in this luxurious estate home at Arbor Hills: Elegance, upgraded amenities, expansive living spaces, 5 bedrooms and 6.1 baths on a gorgeous 1+ acre lot. Additionally, the finished walkout offers a second kitchen and huge family room. $975,000

Ann Arbor – This stately residence, known as the Fred McOmber home, sits high on a 1-acre lot overlooking Ives Wood. A great opportunity to renovate a piece of history and make it into your own. Many original features are still intact. The large corner lot can be split. $890,000

Ann Arbor – Incredible waterfront views from this Waterford model located on the pond in prestigious Walnut Ridge. Almost 4,000 sq. ft. with 4 bedrooms, 2 bonus rooms, and 3.1 baths. Brand new bamboo floors on first level. Stunning first floor master bedroom suite. $819,900

Downtown Ann Arbor – Rental opportunity for a penthouse unit at Ashley Mews! Breathtaking view of the city from every room in this distinguished retreat. 2,916 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms and 3 full baths. Exceptional living spaces and huge L-shaped terrace with hot tub. $5000/month.

Ann Arbor – Custom home situated on a large lot that backs to the woods in the Polo Fields golf course community. Plenty of space with over 4600 total square feet, 6 bedrooms, 4.1 baths, a study, and 2 fireplaces. Finished view-out lower level. $649,900

Ann Arbor – Impeccable Lake Forest home on a cul-de-sac. Over 3,700 sq. ft. offering 4 bedrooms and 3.1 baths. Kitchen updated with cherry cabinets, granite counters, and stainless appliances. Soaring 2 story great room has south facing windows. First floor master suite. $560,000

Ann Arbor – Brand new Brazilian cherry wood floors grace the first and second levels of this 4-bedroom, 3.1 bath home at Lake Forest Highlands. Finished walkout lower level provides even more living space. Great open floor plan for today's modern family. $379,900

South Lyon – Exquisite Toll Brothers home in Trotters Pointe backing to a pond. New hardwood floors, carpet and paint. Kitchen remodeled with stainless appliances, granite counters, tile backsplash and lighting. Finished lower level has wet bar, amazing rain shower and more! $379,900

Ann Arbor – Stately pillars highlight the façade of this roomy 2-story that sits on a park-like acre. 3,400 sq. ft. including finished walkout lower level, 4 bedrooms and 2.1 baths. Formal dining room has sliding doors to the screened-in sunroom. Master suite with sitting area. $369,900

Ann Arbor – Move right in to this updated colonial located just steps away from Abbot Elementary and park. With 5 bedrooms and 2.1 baths, this home has room for all. Beautiful, remodeled kitchen. Master bedroom with private bath and balcony overlooking the back yard. $330,000

Ann Arbor – Rare chance to live in one of Ann Arbor's most desirable areas, in this upscale Stadium Commons condo right across from U of M stadium. Light-filled, vaulted living room has French doors opening to the study/2nd bedroom. Included 1-car garage. $229,900

Ann Arbor – Character and charm welcome you in to this impeccably maintained bungalow on Ann Arbor's west side. Wonderful enclosed front porch for enjoying the upcoming summer. Basement has been completely refinished and has large, light-filled windows. $199,900

The Bouma Group Welcomes John Price as Their New Listing Specialist

John Price is responsible for listing properties with The Bouma Group. He is an experienced negotiator and advocate. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan and the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law where he served as Title Editor of the Law Review. In his free time, John enjoys seeing films at the historic Michigan Theater and serves on the Governmental Affairs Committee of the Ann Arbor Area Board of Realtors and the City of Saline Environmental Commission.

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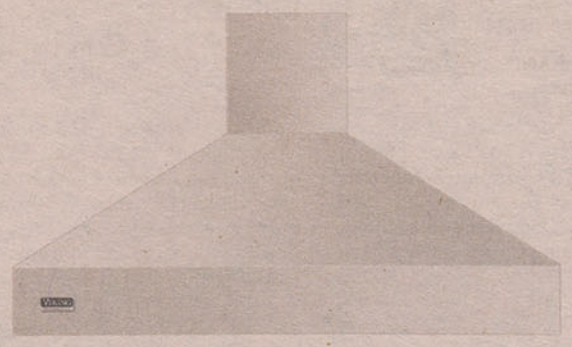

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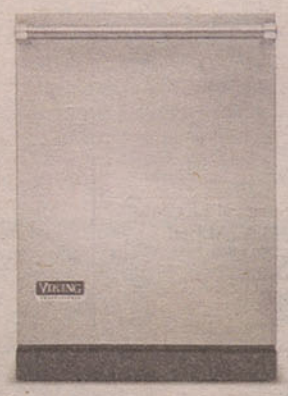

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Classifieds

Lessons & Workshops

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 9.

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Miscellaneous

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 9.

I SPY CONTEST
Can you identify the glimpse of Ann Arbor in the photo on p. 107? If you can, you could win a $25 check made out to any business advertising in this issue. One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by noon, May 9. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: I Spy, Ann Arbor Observer, 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Fax: 769–3375; email: backpage@aaobserver.com (include address and phone number and put I Spy in the subject line).

FAKE AD CONTEST
Can you find the fake ad in this issue of the Observer? If you can, you could win a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue! One winner will be drawn from all correct entries received by May 9. No phone entries, please. Send your answer to: backpage@aaobserver.com or write to: 2390 Winewood, AA 48103. Please include your address and phone number.

Services

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 9.

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To advertise, email, fax, or mail your ad info to the address below by the 10th of the month. Rates are $7 per line, or fraction of a line, per insertion (two line minimum). Ads will run in the next open issue.

Mail, email, or fax your ad to:
Ann Arbor Observer Classifieds
2390 Winewood Ave., Ann Arbor, MI 48103
Office: (734) 769-3175, Fax: (734) 769-3375
Email: classifieds@aaobserver.com
Please include your name and contact information.

We reserve the right to reject, cancel, or modify any advertising and to determine the classification of individual ads.

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The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 9.

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PVT YOGA THERAPY & RETREATS
(734) 665–7801 YogaAndMeditation.com

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The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 9.

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Rob Hughes at (734) 545–0575

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Real Estate

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 9.

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Ann Arbor, MI 48103

Rental

The **Classifieds deadline** for the June issue is May 9.

Hacienda Encantada 4-diamond Resort Cabo San Lucas, BCS Mexico. Junior suite, sleeps four. 7 nights for $650. pamrickelmann@att.net

Dear Readers, the Observer needs your help.

SPECIAL REQUEST

We are asking you to assist us in one of two possible ways.

1. Confirm your FREE subscription. You may call our office to confirm at 734.769.3175, fill out the form below and mail it to our office, or email the information to subscribe@aaobserver.com.

OR

2. Become an Observer Friend. Voluntarily pay $20 per year for your annual subscription.
(If you would like to make a larger contribution, we will happily and gratefully accept it.)

Why is this important? To maintain our second-class-periodical postal status, which includes a faster, more economical delivery service, we have to show the post office that our readers want to keep receiving the Ann Arbor Observer.

Since 1976, the Observer has been a locally owned community resource. We want to continue to provide the Observer to all permanent Ann Arbor residents and chamber members in Washtenaw County. We are making every effort to keep costs in line and maintain our commitment to quality. If you can't afford to become an "Observer Friend" by paying for your subscription, **please take a few minutes to confirm your FREE subscription**.

Thanks for reading the Observer.

Sincerely,

Patricia Garcia
Publisher

All new "Observer Friends" and FREE subscription confirmations received **by May 14** will be entered in a drawing for one of two **$25 Gift Certificates** at your choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

☐ **Yes!** I am a resident of the Ann Arbor Public School District and I want to continue receiving the Ann Arbor Observer and City Guide free of charge. Enter me in the $25 Gift Certificate drawing!

☐ **Yes!** I am a resident of the Ann Arbor Public School District and I want to become an Observer Friend. Enclosed is my check for $20. Enter me in the $25 Gift Certificate drawing!

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Address _____
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danabarton52@gmail.com
www.annarbortherapyworks.com

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4005 Carpenter Rd. Ypsilanti. MI

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• Basement Wall Waterproofing • Floor Joist Repair or Replace
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General Contractor (734) 428-1920

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Advertiser Index

AIM High School ... 86
Abbott's Landscape Nursery ... 39
Abracadabra ... 56
Allstate Darts & Billiard Access. ... BC
American Gas Works ... 106
Ann Arbor Antiquarian Bookdealers ... 80
Ann Arbor Antiques Market ... 77
Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation ... 7
Ann Arbor Art Association Art Center ... 17
Ann Arbor Automotive ... 26
Ann Arbor Comedy Showcase ... 65
Ann Arbor District Library ... 68, 74
Ann Arbor Historical Foundation ... 69
Ann Arbor Observer ... 43, 70, 72, 88, 98, 107
Ann Arbor Optometry ... 33
Ann Arbor Plastic Surgery ... 34
Ann Arbor Public Schools ... 16
Ann Arbor Public Schools—Ed. Foundation ... 67
Ann Arbor State Bank ... 102
Ann Arbor Summer Festival ... 11
Ann Arbor Area Transportation Authority ... 18, 46, 71, 72, 107
Ann Arbor YMCA ... 91
Anthony Wayne Cat Fanciers Cat Show ... 79
Aqua-Channel Meadowlark ... 66
Arbor Dog Daycare ... 78
Arbor Farms Market ... 14
Arbor Hills Shopping Center ... 15
Arbor Lawn Care ... 106
Arbor Springs Water ... 91
Arborland Mall ... 70
Associates in Pediatric Dental Care ... 85
Aut Bar & Common Language Book Store ... 51

BMW of Ann Arbor ... 21
Dana Barton ... 106
Barton Manor Assisted Living ... 77
Bebe's Nail & Spa ... 59
Bellanina Day Spa & Gift Boutique ... 75
Berkshire Hathaway Snyder & Company of Realtors ... 12
Better Transit Now ... IFC
Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Washtenaw County ... 85
Big City Small World Bakery ... 51
Birkenstock ... 85
Bivouac ... 24
Blast Pain ... 44
Bloom Gardens ... 19
Blue Tractor/MASH ... 50
Books by Chance ... 88
The Bouma Group ... 103
Brain Monkeys ... 81
Elizabeth Brien, realtor ... 9
Brookhaven Manor Retirement Community. ... 40

Cafe Felix ... 52
Erin Cantrell, personal trainer ... 73
Cardamom ... 52
Center for Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery ... 47
City of Ann Arbor—Curbside Compost ... 32
Parks & Rec. Dept. ... 20
City Pets Veterinary Clinic ... 79
Collected Works ... 58
The Common Grill ... 52
Cottage Inn ... 58

Dance Classics ... 83
Dancing Dog Gallery ... 61
Daycroft Montessori School ... 84
Dempsey Insurance ... 36
Dispute Resolution Center ... 46
Downtown Home & Garden ... 8

EMU Basketball Camp ... 81
Elizabeth J. Interiors ... 77
Encore Online ... 78
Rob Ewing, realtor ... 23

Final Round ... 5
Final Stretch ... 13
Gerald Ford Library ... 69
Forest Hill Cemetery ... 96
Found ... 57
Friends of AADL ... 69

Gago Center for Fertility ... 43
Garrido Crew ... 106
Germain Audi ... 6
Germain Volkswagen ... 6
Gilbert Residence ... 94
Glacier Hills Senior Living Comm. ... 36
Go Like the Wind School ... 82
Great Lakes Rabbit Sanctuary ... 79
Grillin' 2014 ... 25
Grizzly Peak Brewing Company/Old German ... 50

Habitat for Humanity of Huron Valley ... 49
Hardscape Outdoor Solutions ... 44
Heavenly Metal ... 57
Histo Sonics ... 94
Holiday Inn North Campus ... 36
Hollander's ... 58
Home Appliance Mart ... 104
Honeymoon Hauling ... 89
Housing Bureau for Seniors ... 70
Howard Hanna ... 27, 51, 61, 67, 89, 95, 97
Huron River Watershed Council ... 76, 80
Huron Towers Apartments ... 75
Huron Valley Financial ... 30

Ken's—Nielsen Flowers ... 73
Kensington Court ... 4
Kerrytown Associates ... 28
Kite Network ... 24
David Klein ... 106

Lucy Ann Lance ... 88, 96
Land Architects ... 34
Lena ... 56
Carolyn Lepard, realtor ... 40
Lexi's Toy Box ... 83
Lily Grace Cosmetics ... 56
Lotus Gardenscapes Inc. ... 21
Ken Lussenden ... 29
Dr. Steven Lutz ... 35

MOSA Audiology ... 90
Ken MacLean ... 106
Main Street Area Association ... 59
Mani Osteria & Bar ... 53
Margolis Nursery ... 49
Mast Shoes ... 63
Thomas McMullen Properties ... 38
Meadowlark Energy ... 40
Mercedes of Ann Arbor ... 14
Michigan Elite Soccer Academy ... 87
Michigan Premier Soccer Academy ... 84
Michigan Property Managers ... 33
Michigan Theater ... 22, 108
Alex Milshteyn ... 10
Mix ... 57
Mobile Mower Repair Inc. ... 40
Mosaic Feline Refuge ... 78
Motawi Tileworks ... 42
Ms. Green Construction ... 48

Northstar Bank ... 42

Oak Arbor Company ... 27
Out Loud Choir ... 75

Pain Recovery Solutions ... 94
Partner for Transit Ballot Comunity ... 2
Peaceable Pets Animal Care ... 29
Performance Network ... 66
Pet 'N Play ... 87
A Peter James Salon ... 74
Planet Rock ... 82
Polo Fields ... 50
Purple Rose Theatre Company ... 71

Quarter Bistro & Tavern ... 56

Real Estate One ... 100, 101
Regency at Bluffs Park ... 96
Charles Reinhart Co. ... 99
Charles Reinhart Co. Property Management ... 39
Charles Reinhart Co. Commercial ... 70
Restoration Vein Care ... 91
Rocks & Robots LLC ... 83
Ron's Garage ... 89
Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor ... 81
The Ryan Team ... 36

Select Ride ... 1
Serge van der Voo Landscapes ... 19
Seva ... 53
John Shultz, photography ... 25
Silver Maples of Chelsea ... 92, 93
Spruced Up Spaces, LLC ... 43
Stone Enterprises Inc ... 106
Summers-Knoll School ... 86
Sweetwaters Cafe ... 63

Ten Thousand Villages ... 59
Terrafirma ... IBC
Tio's Mexican Restaurant ... 60
Title Boxing Club ... 3
Tremaine Real Living Real Estate ... 49

U-M Department of Neurology ... 95
U-M Department of Psychiatry—Biopolar ... 94
U-M KidSport ... 82
U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens ... 69
U-M Womens Basketball ... 84
United Bank & Trust—Washtenaw ... 39, 98, 99
University Musical Society ... 54, 55

Vicki's Wash & Wear Haircuts ... 57

WCBN ... 90
WCC Health & Fitness Center ... 20
Washtenaw County Historical Society ... 79
Washtenaw Podiatry Group ... 95
White Lotus Farms ... 76
Whole Foods ... 61
The Wickland Group ... 47

Zingerman's Community of Businesses ... 62
Zena Zumeta ... 90

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i spy

by Sally Bjork

"April's I Spy is the Natural History Museums Annex next to North Hall," writes Michael McGraw. "Both [are] now slated to be demolished." It's "being knocked down to build yet another UM science building," adds Rebecca Sweeton. (The new building will house the departments of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology and Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, as well as exhibit space for the Anthropology, Natural History, Paleontology, and Zoology museums.)

"I first thought [the photo] might be North Hall," writes Tom Jameson, "but when I went to look, found that it was next door." Tom was not alone; five others pegged the building as North Hall. Several also commented on the (coincidental) coverage of North Hall and the Museums Annex in the April feature about U-M Homeopathic Hospital—Judi Taylor notes the Annex's "beginnings as the Homeopathic Hospital's Children's ward."

Lyn Latta Sleator recognized the front door of the Museums Annex "immediately … My father worked there for the Institute of Fisheries Research … from the early fifties until he died in 2008." She and her siblings have "fond memories of the building" including its "distinctive smell."

Once had an orchard in its backyard

Eleven entrants correctly identified the Museums Annex. Our winner, drawn randomly from the correct entries, is Tom Jameson. He'll enjoy his $25 gift certificate at Seva (see Marketplace Changes, p. 57).

To enter this month's contest, use the photo and clue above to identify the scene, then follow the instructions at the bottom of the page.

fake ad

by Jay Forstner

We received 105 entries correctly identifying the April Fake Ad. That's not a huge number, but not bad when you consider what else all of you Fake Adders had to send in in mid-April. (You do pay taxes, don't you? Or are you so wily that you've figured out a way to avoid them, and cheating death is next?)

After a lifetime in air purification research, I finally saw the light. It came to me when I was experimenting with the effects of mild air conditioning on microbe production. The data was remarkable. I remember thinking, "Gee, low AC kills more mold spores than full AC, heat, or dehumidification."
Now, you can benefit from my research! My WhisperCool filter will keep your whole house germ-free or I'll give you back your money, no questions asked.
WhisperCool
FILTERS
Look for them at Lowe's and Home Depot, and in the home improvement sections of other retailers.

The ad was for WhisperCool filters, with the last name of our March winner, "Glowacki," concealed in the text, "Gee, low AC kills …" It appeared on p. 86 of the April issue.

"I love your fake ads," Kathy Kennedy wrote, thus making her one of our favorite entrants. "They are the first thing I look for each time I get the Observer. Thank you for the fun and challenge."

Our winner was Ypsilanti's Donald Reichert. He's taking his gift certificate to the Old German.

To enter this month's contest, find the Fake Ad and follow the instructions in the box below. The Fake Ad always contains the name of last month's winner in some form.

To enter either contest, send email with the subject "Fake Ad" or "I Spy" to backpage@aaobserver.com. Mail: 2390 Winewood, Ann Arbor, MI 48103. You must include your name, address, and telephone number! All correct entries received by noon on Friday, May 9, will be eligible for this month's random drawings. Winners will receive $25 gift certificates to any business advertising in this issue.

THANKS!

We extend a sincere thank you to our new Observer friends!

We appreciate your financial support.

Thanks also to readers who responded to our request for **FREE** subscription confirmations.

Congratulations to the lucky winners of our April drawing!

The following readers won a **$25 gift certificate** to their choice of any business advertising in the Observer.

April winners:
Kathleen Y. and Ellen W.

If you would like to be entered in the May drawing for a $25 gift certificate to any business advertising in this issue, check out the information on page 105, and submit your Observer Friend or Free Subscription confirmation by May 14.

Thanks!

Observer Staff

What's New online?

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COMING SOON!

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Mark your calendar and help the Michigan Theater raise $20,000!

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All donations must be made online only through the above website on 5/6/14. $10 minimum gift.

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the emerald tour

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B.B. KING

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Events at a Glance

Daily ***Events*** *listings begin on p.* ***67.*** ***Films:*** *p.* ***73.*** ***Galleries:*** *p.* ***79.*** ***Nightspots*** *begin on p.* ***64.***

Concert Music

classical, religious, cabaret

- Concerto delle Donne (early music), May 2
- Dexter Community Band, May 4
- Chaverim B'Shirim Jewish choir, May 4
- Fortepianist Carol lei Breckenridge, May 4
- Washtenaw Community Concert Band, May 8 & 18
- Ann Arbor Concert Band, May 11
- Out Loud Chorus, May 16 & 17
- Measure for Measure chorus, May 17
- Baritone Jesse Blumberg & pianist Martin Katz, May 17
- Vocal Arts Ensemble, May 18
- Ypsilanti Community Choir, May 20
- Classical guitarist Michael Dadap, May 25

Vernacular Music

pop, rock, jazz, & traditional

See ***Nightspots****, p. 64 for shows at the Ark, Blind Pig, & other clubs*

- Jazz pianist Tad Weed, May 2
- Pianist Heloisa Fernandes (jazz & Brazilian), May 2
- Singer-songwriter Don White, May 2
- Guitar duo Shari Kane & Dave Steele, May 7
- Harmonica player Peter Madcat Ruth & singer-songwriter Dave Boutette, May 9
- Folk-rock singer Melanie, May 9
- Barbara Payton (rock & soul), May 15
- Julien Labro & the Spektral Quartet (jazz & tango), May 15
- Pop-folk singer-guitarist Michael Johnson, May 16
- Ingrid Laubrock & Tom Rainey (jazz), May 16
- Steel City Rovers (Celtic), May 18
- Boogie-woogie pianist Matthew Ball, May 20
- Pianist Gwilym Simcock (jazz & classical), May 23
- Chamber Music Festival (PhoenixPhest), May 24
- Singer-guitarist Chuck Mitchell, May 30

Theater, Opera, & Dance

- *The Foreigner* (Encore), May 1–4
- *Richard III* (Performance Network), every Thurs.–Sun.
- *Spring Comedy Festival* (Purple Rose), every Wed.–Sun. through May 24
- *Suspicions* (From Around Here), May 1–3
- *The Tempest* (St. Augustine's Homeschool Players), May 2–4
- *Rent* (Pioneer High), May 2 & 4
- *Life Is a Dream* (Brass Tacks), May 2 & 3
- *Measure for Measure* (Greenhills), May 8
- *Noises Off* (Civic Theatre), May 8–11
- *Thom Pain (based on nothing)* and *Lady Grey (in ever lower light)* (Emergent Arts), May 9–11
- *La Cenerentola* (Metropolitan Opera broadcast), May 10
- *42nd Street* (Ann Arbor in Concert), May 17
- *King Lear* (National Theatre London broadcast)
- *Appointment with a Highwire Lady* (Emergent Arts), May 21–24 & 29–31
- *Closer Than Ever* (Encore), May 29–31
- *The Great God Pan* (Redbud Productions), May 29–31
- *The Space Between* (Pure Existence Dance Company), May 30 & 31
- *The Brothers Grimm* (Skyline High), May 30
- *Just Desserts: One Acts, Shorts, & Skits* (Community High), May 31

Comedy, Storytelling, & Performance Art

- Comic David Dyer, May 1–3
- Comic Tracey MacDonald, May 8–10
- Comic Jef Brannan, May 16 & 17
- Comic Suzanne Westenhoefer, May 22
- Comic Sal Demilio, May 23
- Comic Ricarlo Flanagan, May 30 & 31
- "Mixed Nuts" variety show, May 31

Festivals, Fairs, & Shows

- 7th Annual Farm Festival, May 3
- Show 'n' Shine Car Show, May 4
- Bike Ypsi Spring Ride & Fest, May 4
- 4th Annual Water Hill Music Fest, May 4
- Mini Maker Faire, May 10
- Juggling Arts Festival, May 10
- TechTwilight, May 16
- Varsity Ford Car Show, May 17
- Vintage Volkswagen Fest, May 18
- Antiquarian Book Fair, May 18
- City Club Car Show, May 24
- Arborcrest Memorial Day Observance, May 25
- Memorial Day Parade, May 26
- Aidan's Faire, May 31

Lectures, Readings, & Forums

- Novelist Christopher Moore, May 2
- Memoirist Anne Herrmann, May 5
- Novelist Kevin Keating, May 7
- Memoirist Bruce Mills, May 7
- Journalist Sheryl WuDunn, May 14
- Novelist Joshua Ferris, May 17
- Novelist Greg Iles, May 19
- Columnist Daniel Jones, May 19
- Novelist Josh Malerman, May 20
- Poet Cindy Hunter Morgan, May 20
- Graphic novelist Shaun Manning, May 31

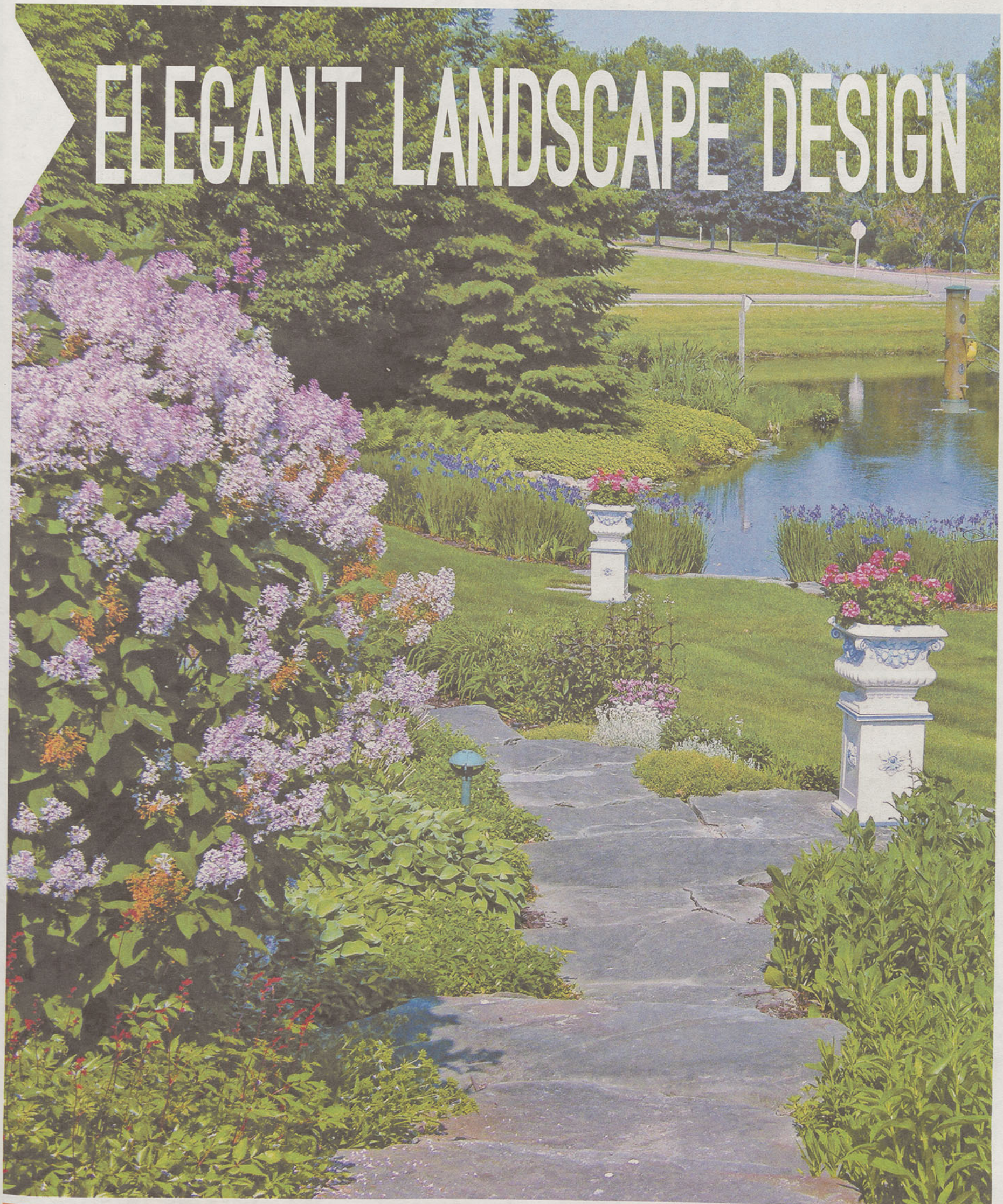
Family & Kids' Stuff

- *The Wizard of Oz* (Wild Swan), May 1–4
- The Lincoln Trio (chamber music), May 3
- *Henry & Mudge* (Theatreworks USA), May 4
- *Fairytale Family Vacation* (Civic Junior Theatre), May 15–18
- *The Wizard of Oz* (Young People's Theatre), May 16–18
- *Macbeth* (Young Actors Guild), May 16–18
- Butterfly Festival, May 17

"Only in Ann Arbor" Event of the Month

- 36th Annual Burns Park Run, May 4

ELEGANT LANDSCAPE DESIGN



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Sat. 10–6 | Sun. 12–5

homeleisure.com

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